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25 June 1985

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REGIONAL AFFAIRS

GULF PERSPECTIVE ON REGIONAL ISSUES

London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 11-17 May 85 pp 3-4

[Article by Fu'ad Matar: "Gulf Perspective on the Region's Destiny"]

[Text] What is the destiny of the Arab region, and what will become of the Lebanese crisis which is becoming more heated at the present time?

What will be the negative consequences of the Gulf war on the Arab situation in general?

At the present time these are the questions that are being brought up in political discussions that take place in Gulf and Arab capitals. These questions are also being asked in Riyadh, where I am writing this article, on the eve of the state's move to Jeddah and al-Ta'if. The events that have been referred to and the serious escalation that has taken place in them have created considerable confusion among those who have been following what has been happening behind the scenes in the developments. The answers they give to those questions are as contradictory and varied as their locations are. One of the most important answers being given on all levels may be that the current situation in Lebanon has reached a most dangerous point. Arab and international communities have become so desperate about the possibility that a solution to the Lebanese crisis may be reached that they are beginning to deal with this crisis in the Lebanese fashion: they are resigning themselves to it.

As summarized to me by several sources, the Gulf perspective on the course of the Lebanese crisis indicates that what is happening today in Lebanon has gone beyond all political, religious and national conflicts and disputes and has turned into a conflict that is dominated by personal interests and outside connections.

The gloomy picture that these sources are painting of the Lebanese predicament comes close to "washing their hands" of the Lebanese question, now that they have no hope that accord can be restored among the Lebanese people. These sources have no hope that the Lebanese people can blend together and become one national united society.

A Gulf source who knows what goes on behind the scenes of the Lebanese crisis and where it might go from here explained that new conditions which have recently appeared on the Lebanese scene indicate quite clearly that there is

some kind of race going on between local parties who are vying with each other to draw the borderlines for their cantons and get the dispute between them to a point of no return. This would make it impossible for them to put down their weapons until they knew what place will be designated for them on the future map of Lebanon.

Caught between analyzing what is happening in Lebanon and their bewilderment by the attempt to decipher the symbolic significance of these events, the same sources are proposing solutions that could put an end to this war which has been going on for over 10 years.

Among these solutions is one in which an American style federation would be adopted. Another is to set up a political formula like that of the Gulf Cooperation Council. This formula would be suitable to all Lebanese parties which would come under one political umbrella that in one way or another would revolve in Syria's orbit.

This is the only possible way by means of which the Lebanese dream of keeping the country intact can become reality. The war did prove that dreaming about Lebanon becoming the Switzerland of the Middle East was some kind of intellectual luxury that the Lebanese had been aspiring to. However, that aspiration has been buried in the "fray" of the current crisis.

The danger of what was mentioned by these sources lies in the fact that what they said is based on the official positions of Gulf countries. These countries are not inclined to try again to put out the fires that have been ablaze in Lebanon. This is because they have prior convictions that are the product of past experiences. In addition, Arab and international efforts had failed to lay the foundations for a solution that would be satisfactory to the Lebanese and to the regional parties that could influence the solution.

Just as much as Lebanese developments have been capturing attention in the Gulf because of the ties that exist between Lebanon and the capitals of the super-powers where decisions are made, the question of the war between Iraq and Iran has taken over the largest part of the communications and deliberations that take place among the countries of the Gulf.

Based on the same sources, it seems that there are numerous details about all the stormy developments that are being seen in the area. Some of these details may be true, and some may not be. The sum total of these details, however, rounds off the picture which today does not help determine the future of either this conflict or this drain.

In providing an explanation for the escalation in the Gulf War these sources state that there are several possible courses for this war, in which regional and international movements are contending with each other, and that Gulf countries can no longer afford to stand aside and watch it being fought.

Therefore, the Gulf countries have been intensifying their efforts to persuade Iran to solve the dispute peacefully and avoid relying on the use of force as a principle for achieving a solution. According to these sources, which are close to decision-making circles in the Gulf, escalating the conflict would mean

internationalizing it and complicating the situation further. However, Iran's constant refusal of all mediation efforts has made the question of both material and public support for Iraq inevitable as well as necessary. People in the Gulf are convinced that any economic or political pressure on Iran will undermine the position of Iranians who have been calling for the war to continue, and it will strengthen the position of those groups that have been calling on their government to end the war and accept a negotiated settlement.

Regarding the chance that the war may be stopped in the near future, the same sources revealed that because of Iran's intransigence, the prevailing opinion in the area does not tend to expect a solution to this war soon. Iran is setting conditions that are unacceptable to all the Gulf countries because they infringe upon the sovereignty of a fraternal country. Furthermore, prolonging this war creates many possibilities, the least of which lie in the effects this war would have on the Arab situation in its entirety. This is something that Iraqis understand fully. They are right in their conviction that the lack of agreement among the Arabs on one position toward this war has been a principal factor in prolonging it.

Although all the Gulf countries agree that this equation is an accurate one, other circles think that the Iraq-Iran war has exacerbated Arab disputes and has promoted a clearer image of Arab fragmentation. Thus, the plea for a minimum amount of Arab solidarity, which was made at the Fes Summit Conference, became the essential and fundamental demand for all the Arab countries. The plea was made to ward off the dangers that could spill over into those countries from the war front in the Gulf.

Recently, Gulf countries have been trying to achieve that minimum of Arab solidarity because fallout from the war between Iraq and Iran would have its immediate effect on them. Therefore, the logical question that is being asked in the Gulf is this: To what extent can the Gulf countries shoulder the financial burdens of this war?

I posed that question to an informed Gulf official who answered it by saying, "Gulf countries cannot take the easy way out; they cannot seek the assistance of foreign forces. The world has to realize once and for all that the Gulf countries do not need protection. They reject military alliances because they have no enemies. They want to live in peace, and they want nothing to do with international confrontations."

The source went on to say, "It is true that the conspiracy in Bahrain and the explosions in Kuwait are serving the plot that was being devised for the region, but the Gulf countries have shown their preference for self-reliance in the military coordination that manifested itself in several of their maneuvers."

The source revealed that Gulf countries have in some cases been subjected to international pressures that went so far as suggesting that military fleets would be sent to protect the waterways and ensure the delivery of oil to western countries.

In referring to seeking assistance from foreign troops, the source used the word, "volunteers," to indicate that Gulf countries reject that principle

because what it really means is seeking the help of mercenaries. This provides a clear indication of why Gulf countries are calling for international polarization to be kept out of the countries in the region because it would only exacerbate the divisions in the Arab world.

The importance of this tone that is being used in the Gulf capitals' exchanges at the present time is attributed to the fact that these exchanges are accompanied by information that Libya has been supplying Iran with surface to surface missiles. This has become a matter of real concern for the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council whose ports, oil wells and refineries are within range of these missiles.

But the Gulf perspective goes beyond that subject to what is more serious than that, assuming that the destructive consequences of these missiles can be dealt with. Recent developments in the war between Iraq and Iran, such as isolating al-Basrah, for example--this is something that Iran has been dreaming about--are matters whose consequences would be unpredictable. The grave effects of such a development on the balance of powers in the region cannot be estimated. Therefore, and this is based on the same source, Gulf countries are trying to deal with the developments of this war in political ways because the existing military coordination between the Gulf countries cannot deal with them if matters were to continue to become more critical than they are now.

Regarding the Palestinian situation the same source thinks that Palestinian actions at the present time are not satisfactory to the Palestinians themselves because if the present course of these actions were to continue, Palestinians' actions in the foreseeable future will be restricted to charitable work.

But the same source did not rule out the possibility that future Palestinian military operations could become like Armenian operations, which are carried out in Europe against Turkish organizations. The perpetrators of these operations believe that in these operations they are proving that the Armenian cause has not been forgotten.

To a certain extent, this perspective can be considered a semi-official position, or at least, the position of the majority. Arab agencies have been informed of this view to alert them and warn them.

Although the source did paint a somewhat grey picture of the situation, his opinion and evaluation of the situation agreed with the point of view of an important Saudi source who told AL-TADAMUN, "Unless there is a miracle, the Arab summit conference that has been postponed will not be held. Let's stop asking about when that conference will be held." Both of these perspectives also agreed with the conclusion reached in an analysis conducted by a prominent Saudi official who told AL-TADAMUN, "The region is not only faced with three wars, it is also facing three spears. In fact, it is facing three wars and three spears at the same time."

This is the Gulf perspective on the actual situation in the Arab region; it is rather the Gulf perspective on this region's destiny. One question remains: Is this perspective likely to undergo radical changes after the month of Ramadan, which is at least only a matter of days away, and after the pilgrimage season,

which is at most a matter of weeks away? I've been told by a well-informed source in Riyadh that King Fahd ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz is in the process of carrying out a radical evaluation of the region's conditions and problems, which are becoming more complicated by the day and by the minute.

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REGIONAL AFFAIRS

ROLE OF GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL EXAMINED

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 11 May 85 pp 24-26

[Article by Sulayman Nimr: "Is the Gulf Cooperation Council a Pro-Unity Coalition, or Is It a Regional Coalition?"]

[Text] Ever since it was established on 25 May 1981 as a regional coalition for the six countries of the Arabian Gulf to regulate and streamline bilateral and collective cooperation between these countries, the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] has been accused by many other Arabs--non-Gulf Arabs--of being nothing more than a regional Gulf coalition isolating the Gulf countries from the Arab world or isolating them from the problems and issues of the Arab homeland. Although since the council was established, the countries of the GCC have participated in all attempts that were made to solve Arab problems, which occasionally do get worse, Arabs in the eastern and western parts of the homeland have continued to view the GCC as a "club for the rich." Arab fears persisted and grew into suspicions even though all the charters and bylaws upon which the council has been based ever since it was created strive to emphasize that the aim of the coordination, cooperation and integration formula that the six Gulf countries have accepted is to serve the noble objectives of the Arab nation. Arab fears persisted even though the establishment of the GCC has been consistent with the charter of the Arab League, which calls for the achievement of more stable and closer as well as stronger ties among Arab countries.

Hence, the fact that the GCC hosted a symposium for the Association of Arab Intellectuals, which is headed by Prince Hasan ibn Tallal, the crown prince of Jordan, constituted a favorable and positive attempt on the council's part to initiate an intellectual debate and a cultural, political, economic dialogue about the council's real role. A special study entitled, "The Role of the Gulf Cooperation Council in Achieving Arab Unity," was presented at that symposium, which is an attempt by Gulf countries to ward off the spectre of accusations and other Arab fears about the establishment of the GCC. Although the GCC wanted to ward off suspicions that it was a regional experiment by holding that symposium and devoting the subject of inquiry to its role in achieving Arab unity, the fact that Riyadh embraced this symposium and the interest that senior Saudi officials demonstrated in its discussions and proceedings affirmed the fact that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is convinced that ideas do play a role in formulating political decisions. In opening the symposium Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said, "The establishment of close relations between institutions of thought and knowledge and political organizations that are interested in practice and

application is one of the joy-inspiring signs in our Arab world. We are delighted that ideas are playing a principal role in the formulation of decisions. Who is closer to the conscience of our nation than those men of thought? Their responsibilities are no less weighty and no less important than those borne by the decision makers."

The symposium of the Association of Arab Intellectuals which was held in Riyadh was a fact-finding symposium. It provided Arab intellectuals and scholars with an opportunity to understand tendencies and exchange opinions and ideas about the GCC experiment, or more correctly, the Gulf people's experiment in unity. The people of the Gulf region are saying that this experiment is still in its early stages. They are comparing it with other experiments or approaches to unity, especially the Syrian one. In the course of that symposium the people of the Gulf presented their experiment in cooperation. They said that the aim of that experiment was to achieve unity or a federation. This presentation was made in a paper that was presented at the symposium by the secretary general of the GCC, 'Abdallah Bisharah. He had divided that study into three sections.

The first section presented a historical and an analytical review of the factors and conditions that paved the way for the establishment of the GCC. In this section the study reviewed the historical conditions experienced by the Gulf countries and the reality of having a simple political relationship with the Arab world in the forties. The study showed, however, that the people of the Gulf did experience the Arab people's concerns over the battles for liberation and independence that were experienced in the Arab homeland in the fifties and sixties, and they did interact with them. The people of the Gulf were affected by appeals for unity they heard while they were finding out about the bold Syrian approach to adopting notions of Arab unity. The study stated, "The Syrian approach to unity sparked the debate in the Gulf about the unity of the region. If Damascus, the capital of great Syria and the cornerstone of Arab political thought, managed to agree with Cairo, the capital that led the battle for independence and liberation, despite the geographical distance and political disparities between the two countries, why can't the Gulf countries do likewise?"

After discussing the effect that the Syrian-Egyptian experiment in unity had on firmly establishing the notion of unity among the people of the Gulf, the study talked about how this experiment, despite its failure, "strengthened what was still an unorganized demand for unity among the people of the Gulf." Then the study reviewed the efforts that began in 1968 after Britain announced it would withdraw from the Gulf area to achieve unity in the Gulf. These attempts began with an effort to achieve a nine-state federation: the seven states that had reconciled with each other and Qatar and Bahrain. The study reviewed how circumstances allowed only the establishment of the federation between the six Arab Emirates.

After this historical introduction the author of the study pointed out the reasons that led to the establishment of the GCC. These are:

A. There were radical changes in international economic relations: these resulted from the fact that control over oil shifted from the oil companies and countries that are large oil consumers to the producers.

B. There were Arab changes or what the author of the study called, "Breakdown and erosion of relations among Arabs and the collapse of the unity of Arab security." The civil war in Lebanon broke out; the Camp David treaty was signed; Egypt walked out of the Arab community; civil-war like conflicts developed among the countries; and the Arabs became divided over the Iraq-Iran war. The study stated that these factors led to a conviction in the Gulf that the times were such that collective security was required; such collective security would become a stability factor in the region. The study explained that people in the Gulf believed that their concerns about security and stability were a collective Arab responsibility.

C. The Iraq-Iran war broke out.

D. The nature of the region, the region's political and economic value and its international importance have affirmed that finding a collective protective umbrella for the region, which would take the region's sensitivity and its importance to all into consideration, was inescapable.

E. There were problems with development, manpower and foreign immigration; the economy resembled the economic and social makeup.

The second section of the study dealt with the GCC's three basic documents: the charter, the bylaws and the joint plan of action as well as the final communique for the first Gulf Summit Conference that was held in Abu Dhabi.

The study affirmed that the charter emphasizes the distinguishing characteristics of the Gulf and the outstanding qualities of its people. The study concluded from the charter's preamble that Gulf countries have stayed away from theories and have turned away from traditional political molds and channels that preclude and limit flexibility. The framework for their unity is neither a federation nor a confederation; it is rather a flexible framework that responds to changes and developments. Its broad base is Arab law.

After that the study reviewed the GCC's method of doing business and the philosophy it has been pursuing to achieve its objectives which are based on the principle of "persuasion and being persuaded." No one is forced to do anything, and no one is enjoined to accept what his conditions would not allow him to accept."

Finally, the study affirmed that the GCC with its political, economic and manpower tendencies has been "a vital arm for the Arab nation. It has had a negative effect on old ideas of Arab unity, and it has enriched the rationale for regional cooperation. It constitutes a fair solution to the theory of gradual progress toward development and integration."

Members of the Association of Arab Intellectuals--there were 46 Arab intellectuals, scholars and politicians, 12 of whom were from the Gulf--considered this presentation a review of the Gulf approach to the achievement of unity, or the region's approach to the pursuit of unity through cooperation.

During the discussions that took place among association members, other Arabs expressed their fears while GCC officials enthusiastically defended their

experiment. Observers who had been watching symposium proceedings, from which the media had been barred, noticed that many of the observations and harsh reservations that had been expressed about GCC practices came from Gulf members of the association, especially those who were called "the Kuwait Group." They were Dr Su'ad al-Sabah; Dr Hasan Ibrahim, Kuwait's minister of education; and Dr Muhammad al-Ramihi. These observations and critical remarks were reflected by the monograph that was presented by Dr Su'ad al-Sabah.

The fact that grounds for common Gulf action have not been defined and the absence of a minimum or a bottom line for common action are not considered requirements for flexibility. [It was argued that] this creates a climate of mystery around the policies of some GCC countries. This lack of agreement on minimum grounds for common action is considered responsible for creating a climate of mystery and opportunities for numerous conjectures as well.

Dr Su'ad al-Sabah's monograph claimed that a minimum measure of agreement on basic issues--domestic, foreign, political, economic or strategic--was essential. She said that having that minimum measure of agreement was essential for the method of persuading others and being persuaded to work successfully. She criticized the lack of references to Arab unity in GCC documents, and she said that such references could not be found in any of its leaders' talks, except for what was heard recently at the Kuwait summit when "We heard for the first time that the aim of the council was the establishment of unity."

Many association members may share Dr Su'ad's criticism about the fact that GCC membership has been restricted to the six countries. Iraq, which is a Gulf country, has been kept out of the council; and the two Yemens, which are located in the Arabian Peninsula, are not in the council either. All participants in the debate joined Dr Su'ad in affirming that the test for GCC's role in achieving Arab unity lies in what it does and not in the explanations offered by its officials. In this regard Dr Su'ad al-Sabah's monograph reviewed some of the practices of the GCC countries "whose inclinations belie their professed aim of unity." She states, "How can one explain the conduct of the Cooperation Council countries toward about 1.5 million Arabs living in those countries, coming to them or merely crossing their borders? This conduct denies the notion that we have anything to do with the dream for unity. There are residency requirements that are impossible to meet. There is, for example, a ban against certain nationals from entering the country; people are prohibited from bringing their wives and children; and we insist that an employee leave the country as soon as his work is completed even if he had spent 30 years working very hard in that country, and so on. If we want to renew our faith in our Arab character and in unity, let's unite. Let's change the fragmented course of the Arab reality. We can do that if we get rid of our fear of the effect reconciliation among the Arabs will have on the balance of power as seen by Arab alliances. We must force a change toward our national issues on those who are fighting each other. The economic approach is the simplest way to affirm our role in unity."

There was a discussion on the post-oil period and its effect on Gulf and other Arabs. An agreement was reached that Gulf countries were to come up with future projections for the post-oil period.

There was a discussion on the Syrian approach and the Gulf approach to unity.

There was agreement that having multiple approaches to unity was healthy and that disagreements between these schools of thought were not about total Arab unity as an objective but rather about the method of achieving that unity. It was stated that the GCC had to make itself accessible to some regional Arab coalitions.

There was a discussion about the presence of foreigners (foreign workers) in the Gulf area and the dangers the presence of those foreign workers poses to political and economic conditions in the countries of the region. There was agreement that that presence had to be confronted by reducing reliance on foreign workers and replacing them with Arab workers. Residency must be made easier for Arab citizens.

In the final analysis the symposium was a candid, inter-Arab dialogue in which all participants presented their fears, doubts and reservations. The candor was almost embarrassing.

If the study that was presented by the secretary of the GCC on what has been called inside the circles of the Association of Arab Intellectuals the Gulf approach to unity stirred controversy and a broad debate among association members, there is no doubt that the speech that was delivered by Saudi Arabia's Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal enriched the intellectual dialogue that took place at the symposium on the notion of nationalism. This speech explained two basic topics.

1. The Saudi understanding of the two terms, "Arab nationalism" and "Arab unity." The Saudi attitude toward national ideas depends on how the ruling elite in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia interpret these ideas and national movements that prevailed and are now prevailing. This interpretation is actually influenced by the history of the Arabian Peninsula. The people of Riyadh are always saying that "The Arabian Peninsula is the fountainhead of Arabism."

2. The Saudi experience or, if one may say so, the Saudi approach to Arab unity. The foundations of this school of thought have been based on the religious factor.

As far as the first topic is concerned, when Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal talked about language, history and Islamic culture as the three principal foundations for Arab nationalism, he wanted to affirm that "Islamic Arab civilization peaked and reached its highest level when Arabs and Muslims were able to unite." Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal talked about the onset of an Arab intellectual revival late in the last century to oppose attempts that were being made to obliterate the Arab identity. Feelings of nationalism were awakened, and that raised hopes that unity among the Arab countries could be achieved. After that the Saudi minister of foreign affairs spoke about the failure of experiments in Arab unity and the frustrations that resulted therefrom and were exacerbated by campaigns of doubt. "Thus, the national Arab movement is going through a profound crisis that will impede and delay any Arab effort for unity." Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal affirmed that, contrary to what some people think, the Saudis have full faith in the notion of Arab nationalism. He called for the national crisis to be surmounted, and he asked that the factors and reasons which caused "national feelings to be undermined and efforts for unity to fail" be recognized. He summarized these factors as three.

--The first factor has to do with erroneous ideas about the relationship between Arab nationalism and Islam.

--The second one has to do with the lack of a realistic and accurate appraisal of the importance of unity as the best method for confronting the challenges of security and development which the Arabs are facing in their contemporary history.

--The third has to do with the fact that national feelings and the wish for unity must accompany a scientific and realistic methodology that would point out the way which must be pursued and the steps that have to be taken to achieve the unity that is being sought.

In his address Prince Sa'ud talked about the interaction between Islam and Arab nationalism from the premise that "Islam, as a civilization and a culture, constitutes the substance or the content without which Arab nationalism would lose its most important pillar and support." That is how the Saudi minister of foreign affairs responded to those who are trying to simplify matters in an attempt to block possibilities for interaction between nationalism and Islam by arguing, "Either nationalism or religion: Arab nationalism or Islam!" He was thus affirming that it would be impossible to distinguish between Arab nationalism as an idea and a body of thought and Islam as a renewable cultural legacy. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal warned against those who wish to distort the positive relationship between Arab nationalism and Islam. He said that erroneous ideas and views have become widespread among the young, who studied in the West, and in some Muslim Arab circles as well. These people, who have been influenced by the western notion of nationalism, have mistakenly come to believe that feelings of Arab nationalism could conflict with Islamic solidarity. The fact that these people's erroneous ideas have become widespread has bewildered some Arabs. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal spoke about the absence of a correct view of the practical benefits of achieving unity, and he called for the need to consider "the need to persuade many Arabs that unity is not merely a beautiful dream or a dear wish with which we can titillate our feelings and which we can discuss for our own amusement. It is rather the organizational framework that we must have to unleash the wishes of Arabs and confront the challenges of the present and the future. Chief among these challenges are those that are associated with Arab national security. It is essential that we find out a common Arab strategy to confront the military and political threat that is posed by Israel and others. There are also those challenges that are associated with the Arabs' battle against economic and social backwardness. These challenges cannot be surmounted without a common Arab strategy."

The second topic in Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's paper on the Saudi experiment or the Saudi approach to achieving unity was that of the history of the Arabian Peninsula and its experiments with unity. This peninsula, as is well-known, has known warring and feuding tribes and families for 15 centuries. Its climate was hostile and divisive. This was its condition before Islam. When Islam was born, it tried to unite these tribes and create a united, Arab nation. As Islam spread, the notion of Arab nationalism became widespread and there was a general sense that there was an Arab nation. Islam gave substance to the notion of an Arab nation, in so far as nationalism is a cultural, ethnic and historical mold. But Islam, as a legacy and a civilization, is the substance of this nationalism.

This Saudi interpretation of the history of the peninsula was accurate. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal then shifted to the 18th century to say that the same thing happened then. "When it appeared in the 18th century A.D. that the Arabs of the peninsula had reverted to conditions that had prevailed before Islam because they had strayed from the essence and precepts of Islam and returned to their primitive ways and tribal conduct, God called the historical figure of al-Shaykh Muhammad ibn 'Abd-al-Wahab for this nation. He took upon himself the task of revamping the ideas and actions of Islam by going back to the earliest sources of this True Religion. It was natural for this Islamic revival to be accompanied by another cultural shift for the Arabs of the peninsula. They shifted toward a political unity whose roots began with the creation of the first Saudi state under Imam Muhammad ibn Sa'ud. That state reached its peak under the reign of King 'Abd-al-'Aziz ibn 'Abd-al-Rahman, the founder of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia." Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal confirmed the extent to which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia believes in the notion of unity. He said, "It is not unusual for Arab unity, which has been the focus of the Arab people's aspirations, to have sprung from this region which is simultaneously the birthplace of Islam and the fountainhead of Arabism."

8592

CSO: 4404/351

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

ANNUAL BANK REPORT ON GULF ECONOMIES

Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 24 May 85 p 11

[Article by Aileen Keating]

[Text]

MANAMA—Almost 700,000 expatriates are estimated to have left the Gulf states during 1984, according to the annual report of the British Bank of the Middle East (BBME). The capital outflow during the period stood at around \$25 billion.

The real estate and construction sectors suffered as government construction expenditure in the six Gulf states fell by 20 per cent last year and an even larger decline is projected for the current year, the report says.

Unlike in previous years, deficit spending has now become normal, with the Gulf countries drawing on their financial reserves. There has been a major economic restructuring over the past two years, but whether the economies in the region can now stabilise and accept reasonable growth rates largely depends on the oil market and external factors, the report says.

Gulf oil production fell from 7.21 million bpd to 6.74 million bpd in 1984 with a corresponding decline in oil earnings of eight per cent to \$70.8 billion.

The decline in export revenues has been accompanied by cutbacks in imports. In 1984, current account surpluses were maintained by four of the six members, Kuwait increasing its surplus by an estimated \$1.1 billion to \$5.7 billion. With the reduction in Saudi Arabia's deficit to an estimated \$13.2 billion, the AGCC group's combined deficit was cut to \$3.7 billion from \$10.8 billion in 1983.

For the Gulf states individually, the BBME report says:

As a regional service centre for banking, trade and tourism, Bahrain's diverse economy has been able to withstand many of the economic pressures adversely affecting the region. Bahrain remains an attractive businesses centre and the opening of the Bahrain-Saudi causeway later this year is expected to enhance its potential.

With four financial institutions joining the international community, assets of the island's 76 offshore units rose to \$62.7 billion in December. However, with Saudi banks strengthening their position, Bahrain's banking role has diminished.

In the UAE, a large number of small business have disappeared as a result of the recession. The authorities are continuing to keep a tight rein on the expenditure.

Oman maintained a buoyant economy last year, keeping oil production over 400,000 bpd and sufficient to cover public expenditure. Development plans continue on schedule with oil production expected to reach 450,000 bpd by 1987.

In Saudi Arabia, many companies faced cash flow difficulties with some of them going into liquidation. The "weeding out" process, however, is expected to build a stronger economy in what is described as a consolidation phase in the kingdom.

Major stock issues were offered to the public and more are planned, but at year-end prices were falling, reflecting the depressed investor confidence in the new market. Following a 22.4 per cent decline in real GDP in 1983, a negative growth of 1.6 per cent was estimated for 1984. Improvements are expected in 1985.

Although the pace of development is unlikely to slacken significantly, Saudi Arabia is expected to draw more down on reserves than previously to finance budget deficits.

In Kuwait, the stable oil revenues were overshadowed by the effects of the Souk Al Manakh. The value of Kuwaiti stocks declined by almost 50 per cent during the year, with little signs of an early solution. Overseas, Kuwait expanded its investments in downstream oil facilities creating a guaranteed market for Kuwait oil, but success abroad has not been matched at home.

For Qatar, which has been hard hit by an extended liquidity squeeze and reduced income, the worst of the recession is over. Having adjusted to this situation, normal patterns of growth can be expected. The decision, in November, to develop the North Field gas reserves, one of the largest non-associated fields in the world, is expected to play a major role in the country's future development as the \$6 billion liquefied natural gas scheme gets under way.

CSO: 4400/156

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN GCC

Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 25 May 85 p 6

[Article by Badr Mohyuddin, Senior Economist, Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consulting, Doha]

[Text] The second half of the 1970's and the early 1980's have witnessed two separate patterns of industrial growth in the AGCC region. On the one hand, the private sector has concentrated on small-scale light industries, oriented towards the local market. On the other hand, the public sector pioneered large-scale, capital-intensive, export-promotional industrial schemes, mostly related to the hydrocarbons sector. The first categories are unsophisticated and have not developed rapidly. However, the region's governments have now attached priority to promotion of private sector investment, which is intended to play a major role in the AGCC's industrial development during the next 15 years. With a view to guiding private investments into areas hitherto neglected, this article identifies new opportunities of cross-border bankable projects. The portfolio of over 50 projects has a strong resource and (AGCC) market-orientation, with indications of the market size, capital investments and technology. It includes downstream projects for hydrocarbons, aluminum and other medium/small-sized plants. The data is published in field surveys and the exercise is backed up by a specially designed computer model and in indepth analysis.

Today is the fourth anniversary of the foundation of the Arab Gulf Cooperation Council

INDUSTRIALISATION has become an overriding principle of development intentions in the AGCC states.

This is being taken as a means to institutionalising the growth-impulses generated by the oil-boom, and a step towards achieving self-sustained economic maturity.

Given the special position of resource ownership, coupled with



a latent entrepreneurial vigour of the private sector, the governments of the region spearheaded the process of manufacturing growth, hoping that, through building a strong and viable production-base and related infrastructure, the private entrepreneurship would be enthused to take over the role.

The second half of the seventies and the early eighties witnessed two distinct patterns of industrial growth in the AGCC group of countries. On the one hand, the public sector pioneered large-scale, capital-intensive, export-promotive industrial schemes mostly related to the hydrocarbon sector. On the other hand, the private sector, for the most part, undertook small-scale light industries oriented toward the internal consumer market. But in both cases, inter-industry and inter-sectoral linkages appear to have been grossly neglected; while absence of a comprehensive policy-umbrella has checkered the sectoral performance.

Oil sector

Of all the varied natural resources of the region none approaches its vast wealth as oil and gas. These twin resources will continue to be the major fountain of wealth and developmental activity for a long time in the future.

Oil refining was the obvious initial start towards converting oil to value-added products, followed by LNG, chemical fertilisers and petrochemicals. Three petrochemical products dominate the AGCC production scenario: ethylene, methanol and ammonia. Going further downstream, a somewhat limited range of intermediate products have so far been developed. The production of final products is, however, inadequately limited.

In the long term the present choice of the petrochemical feedstock (ethane/gas) is likely to impose a severe handicap on the flexibility and export competitiveness of the Gulf products. It can therefore be argued that production of C3—C4 derivatives together with those that can be made from cracked gasoline is an area that may need consideration for new investment opportunities.

Besides providing the feedstock to industry, the hydrocarbons became a major source of fuel supply to energy-intensive aluminium smelters, steel plants, cement, water desalination and electricity generation. (Table 1). But the metal industry remains insufficiently diversified with fragile vertical and horizontal linkages.

Non-oil sector

But, outside the oil sector, industrial production in the region is still in a developing stage. Manufacturing establishments are fragmented with lack of production complementarities, and value of their output accounts for less than 12 per cent of the non-oil GDP where it has developed strong backward linkages with the petroleum sector. However, the construction sector recorded the highest inter-sectoral growth rate, where besides cement, extraction of mineral products is active to supply the building sector with sand and gravel and /or to manufacture materials such as concrete blocks and pre-fabricated components, red and sand-lime bricks etc. Because of their weight to value ratio and availability of materials, the building materials have been abundantly and conveniently produced locally to meet the growing market demand. This also encouraged the growth of manufacturing units in aluminium door and window frames, sanitaryware and cement/plastic pipes etc.

Food processing plants have mushroomed whenever and wherever raw materials are available, either from agriculture (fruits, vegetables), or from milk farms (dairy produce), poultry farms (frozen chicken) and fishing (frozen shrimps). Dairy produce is also made from imported powdered milk and output from flour mills is used to feed the bakeries, biscuit and macaroni factories. Beverage bottling industries are also widespread in each state.

However, more than half of the market demand for food and beverages is still met by imports including live animals, and the gap between local production and the market needs may widen each year because of population growth, either natural or by immigration (of the male workers whose needs per head are higher than for a population with more balanced age-sex structures).

Industries catering for other consumer goods needs, especially durables, are comparatively less active. These goods are varied: some simple to produce and others more sophisticated, such as electric household appliances, autos and spare parts, TV and

radio sets, cameras and films, etc. These are not produced anywhere in the region either because upstream production functions are non-existent or for lack of suitable manpower and absence of adequate local R & D base. Industrial establishments when they exist are, therefore, by and large, service and repair shops with some skills to make occasional alterations on customer specifications.

Another category of activity relates to the foot-loose small and medium industries. It includes: wooden/metallic furniture, hollow glass products, paper and paper products, plastic bags/household utensils/toys, fibreglass products, toiletries, and detergents. Nevertheless, a wide range of consumer products are being imported on a large scale and would continue to be necessary for a long time.

Engineering good industries, a prerequisite for a sound industrial base, are conspicuously absent from the industrial scene. Mechanical and electrical machinery for industrial use as well as other equipment and intermediate goods are also not produced on a noteworthy scale. Oxygen and acetylene cylinders, however, are produced by a few plants, but profiled/rolled metal products, metals alloys, machine tools, taps, faucets and even scaffoldings have not succeeded in attracting sufficient investment interest.

On the whole, however, with project-specific approach taking precedence over the policy-oriented approach to Gulf industrialisation, a significant numerical growth in manufacturing enterprises has taken place in a relatively short period of time. By 1984, there were more than 3,570 projects (licensed category) operating in the six member-states with a total capital investment of \$73 billion. (Table 2). Sixty per cent of these projects were concentrated in two sub-sectors, i.e. food processing and building materials. On capital investment basis, much less than a quarter was financed by the private sector.

TABLE 1: INDUSTRY IN THE ARAB GULF: PRODUCTION CAPACITY PROFILE (Jan. 1985)

STATES	HYDROCARBON-BASED			ENERGY-INTENSIVE		
	Oil Refining (000 b/cd)	Petrochemicals (000 tonnes)	Fertilizers (000 tonnes)	Iron & Steel (000 tonnes)	Aluminium (000 tonnes)	Cement (000 tonnes)
UAE	195	PVA : 15	Ammonia : 350 Urea : 495	Reinforcing bars: 111	Primary : 135 Extrusion: 3 Cables : 5	6,900
BAHRAIN	250	-	-	-	Primary : 170 Extrusion: 6 Powder : 7 Cables : 20	450
SAUDI ARABIA	1048	Methanol : 1250	Ammonia : 530 Urea : 900	Sponge iron : 800 Reinforcing bars: 185 Pipes : 138	Extrusion: 17 Cables : 25 Cans : 6	9,494
OMAN	60	-	-	-	-	834
QATAR	62	Ethylene : 280 Polyethylene: 140	Ammonia : 592 Urea : 660	Sponge iron : 400 Reinforcing bars: 330	-	618
KUWAIT	614	Melamine : 15	Ammonia : 990 Urea : 792 Ammonium Sulphate: 165	Pipes : 135 Galvanised : 60	Extrusion: 9.5 Cables : 6	2,145

The vast majority of these 3,570 projects are import-substitutive, mostly (but not always) based on imported materials, inputs and skills. The upper limit of the local value-added content is less than 40 per cent while, in certain instances — particularly in dairy products, beverages, and paints, etc — it is very close to nil. A large number of projects are of a footloose nature with only finishing-touch facilities and minimal inplant processing.

Overlicensing of a number of (same or similar) product lines has resulted in overcapacities, short production-runs, high fixed costs, diseconomies of scale and considerable misallocation of resources. At the same time, the production consumption gaps in

a large number of products still remain to be very wide, with excessive reliance on the foreign sector for some critical products. It is, therefore, essential to rationalise the existing production imbalances through international policy shifts where collective self-reliance is attained within the framework of Gulf common market.

Expansion potential

The most obvious basis for identification of projects are the resource parameters, trade statistics, estimates of effective demand levels, and the type of process which affects the investment costs. However, a mechanical application of these numbers as a sole guide can lead to substantial inefficiencies. Thus, these factors may have to be dovetailed with certain other considerations, which may encompass factors considered important in terms of transportation costs, water needs and pollution risks, minimum efficient scale of production and value-added per worker, etc.

At the same time, with population and skill imbalance, it may be worthwhile considering typical manpower needs of various industries in process of shortlisting and selecting those products that should be preferably manufactured in the region. Indeed, these criteria should be operational in the sense that sufficient information may be available to enable the projects to be ranked with a reasonable degree of confidence. Care should also be taken of the production capacity of the existing plants, those under construction and the ones at the planning stage.

Project Ideas

The list of the project ideas emanating from an elaborate exercise based on the above set of criteria comprised 100. (Table 3). Of these, 50 were short-listed to be the most suitable on the basis of explicit criteria pertaining to the degrees of capital intensity, skilled labour requirements, value-added per worker, local availability of raw materials, savings made on transportation costs (projects in which raw materials processing cause considerable expansion of volume) and ability to generate other industrial activity at the input-output end of the process. A further set of technical criteria was then applied to further refine the list of projects. Care was taken to choose from among the competing projects those which would ensure the widest possible range of products and to suggest regrouping complementary projects.

The potential demand for each product, within the framework of the AGCC regional market, was determined on the basis of time-series analysis with the help of a model. Regression equations were employed for each of the products in their regular and natural log forms. The selection of the equations used for projections was made according to the significance, the explanatory powers, and the goodness of the fit of the results.

Having established the correlation of the past consumption (1976-83) with the concerned independent variables, i.e. GNP, population and per capita GNP, future consumption (synonymous with demand and hence the market size) was estimated for 1990 on the rate of growth for the independent variables within the framework of two scenarios: GNP growing at five per cent 3.5 per cent and population at four per cent and three per cent respectively. Investment costs were worked out on the basis of the market conditions prevailing in 1985 with a location factor of 1.25.

Related policy issues

Two, perhaps three, related policy issues may be considered simultaneously. One pertains to the choice of technology and the other relates to the choice of location. As a matter of fact, the factor of technology alone carries a major bearing on the viability of a project. Hence, choice of a project should be seen with the choice of technology, as also scientific breakthroughs might imply considerable gains on the productivity frontiers.

The importance of transportation costs in determining the location of a project should not be undermined. Even when (and where) transport costs amount to only a modest proportion of production costs, their variation could still be an important determinant of location, particularly where manufacturing techniques and input costs are similar among competing locations.

The third issue relates to a programme of regionalisation of projects (as joint ventures) within the framework of AGCC economic cooperation agreement. The programme may centre around the division and spatial distribution of industrial activity in such a way whereby the individual states undertake production of agreed commodities. Such a specialisation need not mitigate against the development of an industrial structure with an all-sided technological capacity within the AGCC states. However, one need not think of regional cooperation in terms of specialisation in a static sense, nor of countrywide monopolies of industry. Regional plants for a particular industry could be located in more than one state according to the market and development needs. Specialisation

should, indeed, be one important aspect of this programme.

For the programmes to be effectively regional in character, a policy umbrella would have to provide the conditions for the dispersal of industrial activity over the whole region (i.e. the comparative cost may not be the sole criterion in determining the distribution of industry), so that each member-state receives proportionate benefits. In other words, coordinating investment decisions at the AGCC level would have to be conceived in terms of a properly identified package of projects in which all inter-relations are clear, as also the special privileges regarding tax treatment, investment incentives, tariff conditions and commercial policy regulations.

Summing up

In the overall, it is desirable that the national development plans and physical targets are harmonised with Gulf regional perspectives so that the proposed projects may not conflict with respect to utilising the same productive inputs and sharing the markets. At the same time, it is important that states of the region introduce in their national policy frameworks a regional dimension which may accelerate the pace of market enlargement and integration of the development programmes at the regional level.

Equally important would be the national efforts towards creating a business environment that facilitates conversion of the Gulf business community to an industrial community as well as encourages the growth of a new class of industrial entrepreneurs. Indeed, certain objectives of development policy should be allocated priority via shifts in the inter-sectoral allocation of resources and affected through necessary adjustments in policy instruments. Thus, CCASO's ability to generate interest among native investors to look toward investments in industry as profitable, would be a major step forward in the industrialisation of the Gulf.

Table 2: OPERATIONAL INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS: 1984

(Licensed only)

ISIC	PROJECT CATEGORY	No. of enterprises
31	Food Processing	1164
32	Textile Apparel	42
323	Leather Goods	18
33	Woodworking	103
34	Paper & Printing	175
35	Chemicals & Plastics	318
362	Glass	13
369	Building Materials	1037
37,38	Metal Industries	612
39	Other	91

TABLE 3: NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS (PROJECT IDEAS)

1 Infant Foods 2 Bakers Yeast 3 Dairy & Poultry Equipment 4 Vehicle Trailers 5 Travel goods 6 Edible oils 7 Garments & knitwear 8 Paper & Paper Products 9 TV serials and overhead cables 10 Water meters

11 Telephone sets 12 Telephone cables 13 Electric motors 14 Electric transformers 15 Electric fans 16 Electric fittings 17 Power poles 18 Switchgears 19 Diesel engines 20 Carbon & graphite electrodes

21 Machine tools 22 Forgings & castings 23 Feldspar 24 Solar panels 25 Automotive batteries 26 Toys and Games 27 Aluminium foils and products 28 Acetic acid 29 Vinyl acetate 30 Formaldehydes

31 Polypropylene 32 Phthalic anhydride 33 Diethylphthalate 34 Isoprene 35 Pure terephthalic acid 36 Styrene 37 Melamine resins 38 Acrylates 39 Aldehydes 40 PVAs

41 Acetone 42 Phenol 43 Ethanol amines 44 Acrylic fibres 45 Ethanol 46 Synthetic rubber SBR 47 Tiles (PVC, terrazo, ceramics) 48 Soda Ash 49 Disposable lighters 50 Synthetic protein

51 Asbestos sheets/pipes 52 Paints & adhesives raw materials 53 Fibreglass 54 Shoes 55 Welding electrodes 56 Welding machines 57 Toiletries 58 Aerosols 59 Animal feed (concentrate) 60 Greenhouses

61 Gypsum Board 62 Pesticides, fungicides 63 Medical textiles 64 Hospital furnishings/furniture 65 Industrial soap & cleaners 66 Packaging materials 67 Thermosone 68 Rock/glasswool 69 Sanitary appliances 70 Tanks and drums

71 Tea/coffee bag plant 72 Tubular structures and scaffolding 73 Vehicle bodies 74 Alumina 75 Hand tools 76 Leather tanning 77 Boats 78 Matches 79 Fasteners 80 Water heaters

81 Dry cell batteries 82 Agricultural processing machinery 83 Solar desalination units 84 Tank lorries 85 Motor cycles manufacturing 86 Electric Irons 87 Cement mixers, road marking machines, dumpers 88 Naphtha 89 Carbon black 90 Transformers

91 Telecommunication equipment 92 Construction components 93 Power tillers 94 Vehicle components 95 Cutlery plant 96 Plastic corrugated cardboard 97 Pre-fabricated construction panels 98 Sugar refinery 99 Tyres and tubes 100 Red bricks.

CSO: 4400/156

ALGERIA

BRIEFS

SFRY SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL COOPERATION--Belgrade 22 May 85 (APS)--Algeria and Yugoslavia agreed to develop and promote their cultural and scientific cooperation. A protocol was signed Monday by the Algerian ambassador to Yugoslavia, Abdallah Fadil and the director of the Yugoslav Federal Institute of Cooperation. [Excerpts] [Algiers APS in English 1014 GMT 22 May 85 LD]

ETHIOPIAN FINANCIAL AGREEMENT--Addis Ababa 22 May 85 (APS)--Algeria and Ethiopia signed on Wednesday in Addis Ababa a convention of financial cooperation reaching then a new setup in the development of their bilateral relations. This convention was signed by Mssrs Tesfaye Dinka, Ethiopian minister of finance and Hocine Mesloub, Algerian ambassador to Addis Ababa. Hocine Mesloub was to put a stress on this new contribution in favour of the reinforcement of relations between the two countries, according to "wishes of our two heads of state," he said. [Text] [Algiers APS in English 1448 GMT 22 May 85 LD]

SOVIET FOLKLORIC TROUP TOUR--Algiers, 19 May 85 (APS)--A Soviet folkloric troupe accompanied by a delegation headed by Kalev Tammisfou, member of Soviet Communist Party and head of Cultural Department of the Central Committee of Estonian Republic, arrived in Guelma east of the country. At a reception given by the head of the FLN party commissariat in that town, [there] was underlined the mutuality of relations between the two countries and the convergence of points of view regarding international problems. [Text] [Algiers APS in English 1117 GMT 19 May 85 LD]

CSO: 4500/122

EGYPT

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESIDENT'S MAY DAY SPEECH REVIEWED

Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 4 May 85 pp 1, 8

[Article by Ibrahim Sa'dah: "The Political Situation: This Is His Fate!"]

[Text] "Brothers, spare us from people who keep their eyes on dark thoughts, deliberately or through misunderstanding. Spare us from people who want to live with various aspects of shortcomings and inflate every obstacle, besmirch every success and chain themselves in the fetters of despair and the spread of despair. These people exist in every society; democracy and the healthy climate we are living in make it possible for them to keep repeating their claims with the utmost freedom, without restrictions. I am not distressed over that. Indeed, I devoutly state that they perhaps have an excuse owing to the experiences of the lengthy past, or perhaps some day they can become liberated from the restrictions of their own thoughts."

With these forthright words, President Husni Mubarak, in his latest speech, replied to many questions and many individual judgments. There are people who are distressed by the proliferation of talk that is heard and read about incidents of corruption and the spread of corruption. The nationwide and party press writes about these incidents and expatiates in publishing them and in commenting on their scope. The parties, for their part, shed light on incidents of theft and unlawful enrichment and the victims of corruption, and the citizens, in their gatherings, talk about what they have heard and what they have read, and some of them volunteer further additions which people who are present pass on and repeat as if they were facts and the actual truth.

This great attention to such incidents, cases and rumors has given some people an impression that the scope of corruption in our country is widespread, and has also given the opportunity for further promotion and further provocation and expatiation concerning cases of aberrance and corruption. More dangerous than all that, there are people who have found a weapon in the commotion which they can use to realize a goal which has nothing to do with the prosecution of aberrance or the repression of corruption! These people's goal is to turn conditions inside out, jeopardize stability and eliminate all the democratic steps they reject. They want to bring us back to the time where there was a single opinion, a single party, and unified decisionmaking!

It is clear that the people who sang the praises of individual rule, supported the single party and praised dictatorship are the voices which have cried the loudest against the cases of corruption and against the manifestations of aberrance in the democratic system we are living in now, which they do not accept should replace their system and their dictatorship! It is part of their opinion that the economic liberalization which has occurred as an alternative to introversion is responsible for the cases of aberrance and the incidents of corruption! It is also part of their opinion that a result of encouraging the private sector to work and produce has been to open the doors to thieves, bribe-takers and robbers and that they have committed crimes we never heard about in the near or distant past! It is also part of their opinion that opening our doors to receive foreign investors and encourage them to invest their money in productive projects has given them the opportunity to rob, steal, exploit, buy people's integrity and escape with what they have stolen and plundered, which never happened when our country had its doors closed to adventurers and thieves!

It is not significant, in these persons' view, that the people have supported liberalization, insist on democracy, reject dictatorship and support the current regime in its adherence to its policy, its plan and its goals. As far as they are concerned, it is not significant that democracy has brought us back our occupied territory and has achieved us military victory and that we have opened up to the world and have directed our muscles and resources to redevelopment and construction, which we see now in every town and village in Egypt. None of this is significant, in their opinion; rather, what is significant only is that we have realized through democracy what they failed to realize through dictatorship!

We do not need to make a comparison, lest we be accused of settling old scores, rummaging around in the past and rushing to conclusions. The past, the remote and recent past, is now a memory contained in the history books, with its good and bad points. All that concerns us as far as the past is concerned is to draw lessons and conclusions so that we will not succumb to the mistakes of the people who came before us and will benefit from the successes they achieved. When that happens, that does not mean that we are condemning the past, ignoring its good points and casting doubts about its achievements; rather, it means that we are not repeating the mistakes, and are not bringing back today what we rejected yesterday. Not only that, but what we supported and considered a success and an achievement in the past could now become a failure and a retreat.

When we adopted dictatorship in the past, our apparent image, before those of our people who were simple-minded, was much better than our image under the aegis of the present democracy! In the time of the dictatorship, we did not hear about a single case of corruption, and if we did it was the ruling regime which allowed us to do so for reasons which others beside it did not realize and appreciate. We did not have parties which revealed mistakes, exposed deals and shed light on the aberrant persons and thieves of the period of introversion. It was not permitted of the papers, which were owned by the single party, to publish a word or even to finish printing its last copy until after that had been passed through more than one censor in residence in each paper! It was not permitted to hold meetings, symposia, and

meetings to discuss the country's domestic or foreign policy, and no writer or intellectual was given a chance to write a line criticizing a foreign country which had good relations with our government and our ruling regime. All that he was allowed was to write and attack the people who were hostile to us and to support and praise the people who were friendly to us!

Our professional unions were deprived of the pursuit of politics and were forbidden to express an opinion on a local or international issue, unless that supported the position of the government through its rejection or support. How much did our writers and intellectuals suffer in the shadow of dictatorship! They wrote what they did not believe in and they were not allowed to criticize or reject or to make recommendations which individual rule and the dominance of the single party would reject. All that they were permitted was to support, justify and celebrate! The people who refused to deceive their pens and their ideas faced no choice except to escape from their situation and deal with the issues of peoples who were remote from them. These included people who gave up writing about politics and devoted themselves to writing stories, in hopes that perhaps they would find scope for their opinions and ideas there. They also included people who gave up their pens and turned inward, or emigrated if they were successful in obtaining a permit to do so!

The ruling regime, in the context of the dictatorship, was secure and assured that no voices were being raised above its own and that not a single word of criticism was being written against the most minor official in its government! It was not possible to be more innovative than the government was and every citizen sang the praises of the welfare with which he was blessed, the comfort he enjoyed and the tremendous achievements he read and heard about night and day! The ministers of the individual rule were the most comfortable and tranquil of people. There was no paper which dared to criticize their policy, nor any writer who could attack them and demand that they resign from their positions! There was no opposition party which disturbed their sleep, cast doubts about their integrity, or demanded that the judiciary prosecute them! There was not a single citizen complaining about the bursting of sewers, the shutoff of water, sleeping naked, the shortage of pharmaceuticals, the poor quality of production, or the loss of patience about obtaining his usurped rights. He had to avoid announcing all that at a time in which no voice was raised except for the voice of combat!

In the context of the democracy with which we are blessed now, the picture has become totally different. Parties have proliferated, people's opinions have become diverse and people's ideas have diverged. People supporting the ruling party criticize the party and criticize the cabinet. Sometimes their criticism is more intensely violent than that of the opposition! If a journalist praises an achievement once, he will attack mistakes a thousand and one times! The professional unions have abandoned the interests of their members, have neglected to hold the aberrant persons in their midst to account and have devoted themselves full time to issuing political declarations and epic petitions rejecting a domestic policy the government is applying and making provocations against a foreign policy to which the government has committed itself! The parties of the opposition say "West" if the government says "East," and say "East" if the government orients itself

toward the West! The people in the opposition hold conferences and declare most naively that the visit of President Husni Mubarak to the United States of America was the outcome of a secret longing but the ruler did not rise up in anger, the parties were not eliminated and the people who held meetings were not herded into prisons and penitentiaries, as happens in the context of individual rule. Rather, we see him replying to this allegation in a speech on the occasion of Workers' Day, proving, with figures, that it was the most successful visit he had made abroad, and asking the opposition to conduct a careful examination in its statements and verify its information!

In the context of democracy, ministers are the weakest of citizens. Those of them who are failures are not dealt with lightly, no one covers for their mistakes and no power can stop the opposition's attacks against them. It is in the ability of any citizen to make them stand before the judiciary so that the law will hold them to account over one of his rights which they have usurped or a gain on his behalf which they have lost! If the minister complains to the prime minister or the president about the injustice to which he has been exposed in the press, the only advice which he will enjoy is that he can reply in the paper which criticized him or file suit against another paper which made an attack against him and gave his reputation and integrity a bad name!

It is no secret to anyone that the problems and burdens of democracy are much greater, for the ruler, than the problems and burdens of dictatorship. Fortunately, President Husni Mubarak believes in democracy, and we heard him say, at Workers' Day:

"As long as we are working out in the open, as long as our acts are well known in the clear light of day, as long as it is the law that is sovereign and no one will have protection, no matter what his status might be and where his position is, if he goes beyond the boundaries of the law, and as long as commitment to integrity in government is the first commitment from which we will not swerve -- as long as all these basic attributes exist and flourish, protected by the people's will through their constitutional institutions and legitimate authorities which the constitution and the law have defined, democratic life, with all its healthy climate, will be able to accommodate all the negative features and excesses of democratic action."

Democracy, with all its vexations for the ruler, is a million times better, for the people, than dictatorship, with all the easy conditions it provides!

That is the fate of the democratic ruler.

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EGYPT

SINAI PROGRESS SINCE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL OUTLINED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 21, 22, 23 Apr 85

[Article by Ahmad Nafi': "Sinai Knocks on Gates of New Era"]

[21 Apr 85 p 3]

[Text] Whoever visits Sinai now cannot but acknowledge that the dream has become a reality. All of Sinai's infrastructure projects have been completed and all the prerequisites of life have been supplied to varying degrees, depending on the factors governing them and differing from the north to the south. When Egypt celebrates the fourth anniversary of the liberation of the beloved land, Sinai's isolation will have ended forever and Sinai will be ready to achieve the hopes of Egypt and of the Arabs within such a short period of time that nobody had imagined.

When we define the aspirations of Egypt, we find that they are focused on turning Sinai, an area rich with minerals, into an area of attraction by virtue of its being the main outlet for the overcrowded areas of the Nile Valley. The Sinai Peninsula (61,000 square km) is more than twice the area of the fertile delta on which live more than 18 million people. To achieve this objective, the development plans have sought to bolster the intensively cultivated area in the north--an area extending from Wadi al-'Arish to Rafah on Egypt's international borders. The development agencies have also been able to cultivate 600 feddans in al-Qa' Plain, which is close to al-Tur, and to expand the cultivated area in Wadi Fi'ran.

Numerous signs indicate that Sinai now depends in large part on its agricultural production. However, it will continue to depend to a degree on the valley's production until more water becomes available so that larger areas may be cultivated with crops and fodder. But the quantities of water that have become available to the peninsula so far offer the promise that the goal, namely to encourage nearly 1/2 million people to live on the sacred land of the Sinai, has become imminent and easy to achieve.

Sinai Is Link Between Arab Countries

As for Arab aspirations, they are focused on making the Sinai the link between the Arab countries in Asia and Africa, thus linking the two wings of the Arab

nation in the east and the Maghreb. This linkage will be achieved in many ways, especially when a comprehensive and lasting peace is achieved in the Arab area. Such a linkage would not have been possible if the Sinai situation had not changed, with the Sinai being transformed in a few years from land neglected by virtue of the well-known historical circumstances into a province entering a new era of development, now that all the prerequisites of life have been secured for it, to perform its role in bolstering both the national and pan-Arab economy.

The truth is that the Arab nation did not have to wait long to see its aspirations become achievable. Only 3 years after the liberation of the territory, the Sinai will begin on 25 April the first "Arab linkage" processes by way of Nuwaybi', since a regular maritime line operates between Yanbu' and al-'Aqabah Port in southern Jordan and that the trip is covered by a ferry in 2-3 hours. A linkage between the Arab east and the Maghreb is thus achieved through Egypt. The credit for this goes to the joint vision of Egypt and Jordan which have realized since the restoration of full relations between them the strategic importance of this major act. This act might be a prelude to other projects likely to be implemented in the near future. Nuwaybi' may link Egypt with the Saudi ports. Nuwaybi' is only 12 km from the Saudi coast, this being the width of the gulf in that area. There are other locations capable of linking Egypt with the rest of the Arab East, including Sharm al-Shaykh, whose port is being now used by the multinational peace-keeping forces, and Taba, which is only a few kilometers from al-'Aqabah.

If we turn to what this linkage means for Sinai, it is evident that the Jordan-Egypt agreement has been concluded because it relies on important facts, namely construction of all the infrastructure projects to the point where these projects now exceed similar projects in some of the valley provinces. Added to this is the fact that Egypt has succeeded in restoring the land link between the valley and Sinia (i.e., the link between its African and Asian parts) by way of Martyr Ahmad Hamdi Tunnel near Suez. Without this tunnel, such a link would have been impossible to think of. What is intended is to establish a route, mostly by land, between Cairo and Amman, to revive the old pilgrimage route which used to be called the goodness route and which linked Egypt with the sacred lands in Saudi Arabia and to establish a trade route between the Arab countries in the east in particular. This is what is meant by the event which will take place on the fourth anniversary of the liberation of Sinai.

In this respect, when we speak of South Sinai--the lucky part in the Arab link--we find that the plan to develop the sacred Egyptian land has vanquished the difficulties, especially in the mountainous terrain of the central area. In addition to building new towns and villages with all their services, the biggest success achieved is embodied in securing water, which is less abundant in the south than it is in the north. This accomplishment deserves the credit in serving the tourist installations on the Gulf of 'Aqabah which have begun to attract more tourists from Egypt than from abroad. This accomplishment also has a special significance for the trade route that begins in the Suez and ends in Nuwaybi' because it is inevitable that various services will be set up along this route and these services will rely fundamentally as much on the water available in the area as on the beltways and the latitudinal highways that have ended Sinai's internal isolation.

Defeating Difficulties

The future of the services in South Sinai speaks for itself now that a variety of paved roads leading to Nuwaybi' from various areas have been built. A traveler can begin his trip at Ahmad Hamdi Tunnel near the Suez and move on the coastal highway passing through the tourist and mining areas. He can also take a turn at Abu Rudays and move to the Saint Catherine Monastery and to Nuwaybi'. The traveler can also follow the new route (the pilgrimage route) which is currently under construction, which will be completed in November and which is being built to serve the new port in particular. This route begins at Nuwaybi', proceeds to al-Kuntillah and Nakhl and then to Ahmad Hamdi Tunnel. This route is 320 km long. As for the coastal highway, which begins at the tunnel, passes through Sharm al-Shaykh and moves to Nuwaybi', it is 530 km long and it ends at Taba.

Nuwaybi' Port has been built at a distance of 6 km from the tourist hotel in the area. It was built in the record time of 5 months by one of the national companies which also took part in building the road linking the port with Sinai. The draft at the port pier is 9 meters, thus enabling the port to accommodate ships with a load capacity of 25,000 tons. It is also 92 meters wide, thus permitting two ferries to dock at the same time.

Moreover, the Sinai Development Agency is about to complete the project for housing the workers of the new port, estimated to be in the hundreds. Eight villas, five of which contain six rooms each and the other three with four rooms each, have been set aside for such housing. Collective wards, with cafeterias and other living facilities, have been built for other workers. All these workers will move to the village of Wasit. Preparations are currently underway in Nuwaybi' area to build this village which will house the port workers. This port is expected to influence the living pattern of the entire area.

All the port workers and the visitors to Nuwaybi' Hotel are aware of the civilizational move which will be achieved by the new project. The visitors include some who explore the opportunities for work in the various spheres of development. South Sinai is no longer just a mining and tourist area but has become an area of attraction for people with initiative who realize the significance of the start of the trade route between the Arab countries in the east. The development plan has thus produced its most precious fruits, according to Dr 'Ali Mahmud Abu Zayd, the head of the Sinai Development Executive Agency.

He says that the philosophy of development seeks to encourage citizens to work and produce in every site. The role of the Ministry of Reconstruction in Sinai, as in all the new towns, has been that of building roads and utilities and of supplying water, electricity and service installations in order to encourage the citizens to perform their role, motivated by their own human dynamism.

[22 Apr 85 p 3]

[Article by Ahmad Fu'ad and Husayn Fathallah]

[Text] Sinai will not continue to be absent from the awareness and interest of the fertile valley. This land of religions and of Egypt's eastern gate for the crossing of invaders throughout history has begun to reveal the secrets and treasures with which it abounds.

The signs of development have begun to appear on the land which has been irrigated with the blood of the valley's sons.

But the future is brighter. The full image of Sinai's immediate future has been defined by one of the most important seminars organized by the armed forces--a seminar for which these forces mobilized all the available data, plans and military and civilian experts who gathered to define a precise and comprehensive picture for reconstructing and developing every inch of Sinai. The national plan for the reconstruction of Sinai has emerged and the government and popular organizations have embarked on the steps to implement this plan in accordance with a timetable which will end at the end of the year 2010.

How do the features of the comprehensive picture for reconstruction in the good land look?

The development of natural resources is the primary objective when speaking of the reconstruction of Sinai. The current proposal is to form a higher committee for the development and reconstruction of Sinai, with this committee coming under the control of the highest state authorities, enjoying all the powers and controlling all the technical, financial and administrative activities of the various agencies concerned. Here surfaces the importance of setting up a data bank controlled by this committee and encompassing all data pertaining to development in Sinai and the importance of drawing up a plan to complete all the data and studies needed in all spheres.

Within this framework, it is necessary to conduct studies on al-Rawafi'ah dam and al-Dayyiqah dam because of their economic importance in the spheres of irrigation and agriculture. It is also necessary to devote attention to the fish resources and to mining, provided that the private sector participate in these spheres, especially in tourist and archeological projects. It is also necessary to reconsider the issue of utilizing al-Salam Canal to reclaim cultivable land east of the Suez Canal.

Planning Maps

Regarding irrigation, the symposium urged that planning maps be drawn up for all the valleys and that these maps outline the contours and geological formations to help divide the basins of the valleys, to link the water resources map to the soil types and to determine the industrial and mining sites. The symposium also called for conducting field studies to compute the economic costs of collecting dew water. It further urged devoting attention to desalination projects and underground water projects and urged that the water mixture ratio in al-Salam Canal be changed to increase the fresh water pumped into the

canal so as to make it possible to flood the cultivable land. The symposium also urged further studies on reusing sewerage water, on utilizing wind energy for generating electricity, on elevating water and on determining the balance in the movement of the overlapping line separating sea water from fresh water and the impact of the proposed dams on this balance. The symposium further urged that legislation be issued to curtail the increase in the number of wells drilled by the inhabitants in Rafah and al-'Arish.

Agricultural Expansion

As for agriculture and food security, the future picture is embodied in an expansion of the cultivation of grape vines and fig and plum trees, since Sinai land is the most suitable cultivable land in Egypt for growing these varieties. There will also be expansion in dry farming barley and lentils, since rains irrigate more than 100,000 feddans in Sinai. It is also necessary to pay attention to (al-Sawbat) system and to drought-resistant crops.

As for cultivating 143,000 feddans in Wadi al-Jarafi basin and 119,000 feddans in the water basins province, the symposium recommended that complete studies be conducted on the soil and on the water resources so as to utilize these lands for future agricultural expansion.

Insofar as livestock production is concerned, there was a proposal to provide dairy-producing strains of livestock and to bolster the existing resources with 100,000 head of Fresian cattle, to improve the sheep strains, to import 200,000 head of sheep, with 100,000 head for each governorate [meaning South Sinai and North Sinai], to purchase 10,000 camels and to raise the per-capita share of chicken meat to 25 kg a year by building 95 chicken pens, each with a capacity of 5,000 chickens. The allocations needed for livestock production amount to 14,653 pounds.

Developing the fish resources in the area is an important objective that can be achieved by developing Lake al-Bardawil in order to raise its productivity from 3,000 tons to 5,000 tons per feddan per year, by developing the fish farm in al-Qantarah Sharq, by utilizing the other sedimentation basins east of the canal, by completing the Port Fu'ad maritime project and by exploiting the numerous bays in the gulfs of Suez and al-'Aqabah whose production is estimated at 500 tons a year.

Industrial Progress

In industry and mining, the agreement concerning al-Magharah coal must be concluded and attention must be devoted to the Ra's Mal'ab gypsum project whose capacity is estimated at 250,000 tons a year and which will save hard currency estimated at 1.15 million pounds. The Jawz Abu Ra'd Natural gas field must be speedily put back into operation. Insofar as the unexploited projects are concerned, the symposium stressed the need to include in the current and next plan a project to conduct studies on and to exploit Bad'ah coal and to issue permits to the private sector to exploit the sodium sulfate deposits and to set up a cement plant with a capacity of 100,000 tons a year. The symposium also proposed the utilization of al-Magharah coal to generate electricity for al-'Arish.

and to speed up the studies on utilizing the ceramic clays, the kaolin, the glass-producing sand and the precious stones in the area.

From a demographic analysis, it has become evident to the symposium that Sinai's total population came to 157,570 people, excluding the population of al-Qantarrah Sharq and al-Shatt (totaling 9,423 people), thus bringing the total population to 166,993 people. It has been noticed that there is a desire on the part of the nomads to change their living patterns, especially of the youth. It has been possible to calculate the population growth and this population will rise to 460,996 people by the year 2010. If the proposals and plans proceed as charted, this figure will possibly leap to 1 million people.

Seventy-seven New Villages

Regarding housing in North Sinai, 948 administrative units, 543 economy housing units, 2,100 cooperative housing units, 300 housing units for nomads and 150 tourist housing units are being built in North Sinai. In the south, 690 economy housing units and 1,398 administrative housing units are being built. There are also plans to build 5,669 housing units in North Sinai and 856 units in South Sinai.

The proposed total figures concerning housing including 77 new villages, 4 new cities and 11 residential suburbs.

Linking Sinai to Valley

Regarding electricity and energy, the symposium recommended that Sinai be linked to the republic's high-tension electricity network, that 2x30-megawatt power plants be built speedily in al-'Arish, al-Manarah, Abu Zunaymah and Ra's Mal'ab, that studies be conducted on utilizing Sinai's natural gas resources, that solar heaters be used to pump out well water and that wind energy be used as an alternative source of energy.

As for transportation and communications, the symposium proposed building Bi'r al-'Abd-al-Jafjafah highway (80 km long), the Baluzah-al-Tasah-Mitla Pass highway (130 km), the Baluzah-Port Fuad road (30 km) and the Saint Catherine-Wadi Gharandal road (100 km). Regarding telecommunications, the symposium noted that there are no networks linking the two Sinai governorates with the microwave network and urged that Bi'r al-'Abd, al-Jafjafah, al-Hasanah, al-Qasimah, Nakhl, al-Kuntillah and Ra's Naqab be linked, that the capacity of the existing telephone exchanges be increased and that a pivotal cable be extended between al-Qantarrah and al-'Arish (300 channels), another linking Abu Rudays, the Suez and al-Tur and a third between Abu 'Ujaylah and al-'Awjah. It also urged that al-Tur Seaport and the piers of Sharm al-Shaykh Port be developed within the current 5-year plan.

The strategic proposals concerning health and the environment include a proposal that the civil servant be accredited for twice the number of years he spends in the Sinai [presumably for retirement and pension purposes]. As for education, the symposium recommended that the technical education subjects taught in Sinai be connected with the environment, with construction and road building, with

the oil industries, with transportation, mining and the maintenance of fishing boats, with sprinkling and drip irrigation, with the development of livestock resources, with breeding camels and goats, with orchard cultivation, with the development of fish resources and with tourism, hotels, insurance, customs, exports and imports. The symposium also urged that the number of vocational training centers be increased and that these centers be divided among the provincial centers. It further recommended that the production level of the productive families be set up to train young women.

[23 Apr 85 p 3]

[Article by Mustafa al-Badawi]

[Text] The development movement currently marching over the land of Sinai is 3 years old. The forthcoming celebrations of the fourth anniversary of Sinai's liberation will witness the completion of a large part of this march after a long journey of hard work.

In South Sinai in particular, almost every inch of the land abounds with a magnificent beauty that constitutes a unique source of international attraction for tourists.

In the face of these unique natural resources, a question is raised regarding the investments capable of transforming South Sinai into magnificent tourist sites on the world tourism map.

At the outset, Dr Wajih Shindi, the minister of tourism and civil aviation, points out the plan of the Ministry of Tourism to double the hotel capacity in Sharm al-Shaykh, Dhahab and Nuwaybi' and to build several tourist villages and projects, in addition to inaugurating several new projects on the forthcoming 25th of April in Saint Catherine, Fir'awn Island, Taba, Fir'awn Baths and Najmat Sina' in al-'Arish.

Studies are also being currently conducted in cooperation with the International Development Center of the U.S. Agency for International Development on the elements and potential of tourist development in Sinai. The studies are also intended to determine the development sites and the means to utilize them for tourism. A new company for tourist services and camps has been founded with capital of 4 million pounds to supply all the needs of the hotels and tourists in South Sinai, to link the area's tourist villages and to provide the means of transportation on the highway from Cairo to Sharm al-Shaykh, Dhahab, Nuwaybi' and Taba in Sinai so as to attract a large number of Egyptians to boost tourism in the area. Public sector hotel and tourist companies and the South Sinai Governorate are partners in this company which will offer all services and facilities to the existing tourist installations. The company will expand to offer eating and drinking services, build gas stations and car maintenance and repair shops all along the highway and build tourist camps, resthouses and cafeterias along the coast in order to make it possible to utilize the vast beaches extending along the gulfs of Suez and al-'Aqabah, to maintain these beaches and keep them clean and supply the cafeterias which will be opened with consumer goods and other essentials.

The new company will also build toilet facilities on the beaches and all along the highway and will build an internal transportation network and communications and rescue centers. The company will be supplied with refrigerator trucks and with equipment that serves the tourist activity. Shops will also be opened on the beaches to sell clothes, fishing gear and equipment for sea and water sports, diving and underwater photography.

New Tourist Areas

Dr Wajih Shindi, the minister of tourism, added that the areas of Sadr and of the Gulf of Suez have been turned into tourist areas and that a new beach, called Palm Beach, is now being prepared in al-Tur area and that it includes a number of cabins similar to those at al-Ma'murah Beach. It has also been decided to set up tourist villages in the areas of Ra's Misallah and Ra's Matarinah. He also said that the area is open for the investment companies to set up their tourist villages.

Maj Gen Majdi Sulayman, the governor of South Sinai, added that the roads linking Sharm al-Shaykh, al-Tur, Dhahab, Nuwaybi' and Taba have been paved and that water has been supplied to Abu Rudays, with all the problems of the tourist projects on the Gulf of Suez thus solved.

The governor added that it has been decided to link the Sinai towns with each other and with Cairo by telephone through 24 microwave channels. It has also been decided to allocate 5 million pounds to build a new pier in al-Tur Port, in addition to inaugurating the new ferry line between Egypt and Jordan.

Tourism in South Sinai

As for the tourist development projects in South Sinai, Dr 'Abd-al-'Azim Basyuni, the chairman of the Egyptian Sinai Tourism Company, said that the company's projects in the area amount to 40 million pounds in value and that Sinai has been supplied with an air-conditioned fleet of buses linking the towns with each other and with Cairo. The fleet includes 17 buses and micro-buses which have cost 4 million pounds.

A tourist village has also been built in Saint Catherine whose monastery is considered one of the most significant factors of tourist attraction in Sinai. Rather, it is the most significant factor for religious tourism from Europe and the United States. The first phase of this village will be inaugurated next Thursday.

Dr Basyuni added that it has also been decided to set up an international health resort at the Fir'awn Baths in the Gulf of Suez so that this resort may be among the pioneer curative projects.

Salah Dasuqi, the chairman of the Sinai Hotel and Diving Club Company, said that a comprehensive tourist development plan is currently being implemented in Sharm al-Shaykh, Dhahab and Nuwaybi' in South Sinai. The cost of this plan is 19 million pounds and it seeks to double the current hotel accommodation capacity, in addition to setting up a number of new projects, including two

movie houses and various sports, recreational and beach facilities. The plan also provides for exploiting solar energy, for using garbage economically to produce biogas, for using garbage leftovers to fertilize the trees and gardens surrounding the tourist villages and for using the most advanced international methods to eliminate the problems of environmental pollution.

Dasuqi added that the projects include setting up a natural treatment resort in cooperation with Sweden. It has also been decided to turn the Environment School at Sharm al-Shaykh into a tourist hotel and to add more hotel capacity in order to accommodate the tourists coming to the area. This is in addition to boosting conference tourism, since the school is equipped with conference and meeting halls and since it will be supplied with all the modern equipment, furniture and tools needed for the purpose.

Tourist Villages

Dr Fu'ad Hashim, the Arab Investment Bank chairman, said that a new tourist village has been built at the site of the fishermen's village in Nuwaybi' and that it has cost 4 million pounds and implemented an investment loan from the bank. It is a five-star village which includes 101 double bedrooms with 202 beds. The site has been selected on the most beautiful part of the coast of the Gulf 'Aqabah close to the new Nuwaybi' Port. The length of the beach in front of the village is 270 meters.

Maj Gen Muhammad al-Minshawi, the company's general director, stated that the investments are 100 percent Egyptian and that the village is being currently marketed in agreement with the biggest French and Spanish firms. All of the village rooms have been fully reserved for internal tourism this season. The village will be linked with Sharm al-Shaykh by charter trips coming from all parts of the world, especially from Western Europe, to Sharm al-Shaykh directly and from Sharm al-Shaykh to Nuwaybi'. This is in addition to the groups that come from the Arab countries to Nuwaybi' Port by ferry, along with their private cars.

As to what is new in the village, Major General al-Minshawi said that it has a small zoo for children located next to a children's playground, in addition to swimming pools, water sports, diving clubs and children's games, tennis courts and mini-golf courses, a conference and meeting hall and a fish and seafood restaurant of the highest international standards. It has also been decided to introduce direct international communications into the village and to link it with Cairo, Saint Catherine, Nuwaybi!, al-'Aqabah, al-Nida' and Jarash in Jordan by air-conditioned bus lines.

Sinai Airports Receive Tourists

As for the airports in Sinai, Dr Wajih Shindi, Dr Wajih Shindi, the minister of tourism and civil aviation, said that the airports of Sharm al-Shaykh, al-'Arish and Saint Catherine are being currently developed and that the ministry has drawn up tourist and recreational programs to attract tourists from various parts of the world to the warm areas of the Red Sea and South Sinai.

Husayn Farid, the director of Sinai Airlines, said that it has been decided to bolster the airline between Cairo and Sinai, that three new aircraft of the Fokker-27 type have been put into operation on the North and South Sinai routes to link them with the valley in order to handle the increasing tourist traffic and to boost internal tourism. He also said that a new air route between Cairo and al-Tur, with two flights a week, has been put into operation. Sharm al-Shaykh, Dhahab and Nuwaybi' have also been linked and the number of flights will be increased to five a week in the coming period. This is in addition to increasing the flights to al-'Arish to three flights a week now that the rate of hotel occupancy in Sinai has increased and that the internal and external tourist interest in Sinai has grown.

Husayn Farid, the Sinai Airline director, added that the state subsidizes the flights between Cairo and Sinai and that the reductions in flight fares amount to 50 percent in order to encourage Egyptians to visit the beloved Sinai. He also said that it has been decided to link Sharm al-Shaykh and Saint Catherine by air with al-Ghardaqah, Luxor and Aswan so as to link and beach and rest and relaxation tourist areas with religious tourism in the valley of rest.

8494

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EGYPT

STUDY SAYS BLOOD REVENGE STILL COMMON IN UPPER EGYPT

London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 19 Apr 85 p 6

[Article: "Custom of Blood Revenge Still Common in Upper Egypt"]

[Text] This bleeding wound called revenge will continue to spill blood for generations so long as lyricists continue to write colloquial poems glorifying a child whose mother continued to instruct him in wreaking revenge for his father, until the child came of age and killed his father's killers and so long as rebab players continue to sing throughout the night, to the accompaniment of the rebab, the story of Ibn Kulayb, who killed his maternal uncle, under whose aegis he had grown up, to avenge his father.

All this has been confirmed by research conducted by leading researchers at the Egyptian National Criminological Institute. The research adds that blood revenge will continue to be associated with the residents of Upper Egypt until its womenfolk are educated and that this custom will not die so long as illiteracy exists in Upper Egypt--the country's southern sector.

Revenge crimes are concentrated in three governorates located in the last quarter of the Nile bank between al-Minya and Aswan, and these are the governorates of Asyut, Sawhaj and Qing. Insofar as this situation existed up to 1960, those who have observed the appearance of these crimes through statistics say that the establishment of the universities in Asyut, Sawhaj and al-Minya, as well as free college education, have been important factors in the noticeable decline in the figures for revenge crimes. However, an equitable and meticulous researcher cannot say conclusively that this custom, which had accompanied the emergence of this community which had been semi-closed for hundreds of years, has finally disappeared. However, this custom has been contained, and it is practiced only by those who have been deprived of all forms of education, experience and civic knowledge.

Enemies by the Thousands

The most dangerous revenge crimes are the ones which are monopolized for the benefit of clans. After having been an issue among individuals, revenge crimes have shifted--through proliferation, publicity and the multiplying number of individual victims--from the limited scope of being an issue among families to becoming an issue among clans--and this is where the greatest calamity occurs.

It becomes imperative for a large group, whose number sometimes reaches well over 1,000 persons, to live in a state of war and to observe, and lie in wait for, another group of no smaller number comprising members from all walks of life with different interests and whims. Bullets fly by night and day and hit and kill without distinguishing the innocent from the guilty. This is what applies to whole villages in the governorate of Qina between the two clans of al-Hawwarah and al-Ashraf, although there are among the members of both sides people who have completed a university education.

The most obnoxious aspect of the custom of revenge in Upper Egypt is that, in the resident's hearts, revenge does not turn into a matter of an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth. However, revenge turns into the objective of inflicting pain and looking for the person who would be the most useful and whose loss would be the most painful for the other clan, even if the victim is innocent and has dissociated himself from the deeds of his kinfolk and has never approved of this subversive principle. Such a thing happened in the latest case of revenge, which claimed as its victim the former governor of al-Jizah (the late 'Abd-al-Fattah 'Azzam). The killers made a point of hunting him down outside his residence and in sight of his sons and neighbors and his driver, who refused to testify that he had seen the perpetrators or to agree that it would have been possible for him to identify the perpetrators for fear that the other clan would wreak revenge on him.

It is certain that the late former governor had not killed anybody from the other clan, but his relatives had done the killing. However, a revenge seeker sometimes by-passes the perpetrator to go after a prominent personality, whose only guilt is the fact that his clan includes some people whose minds are gripped by ignorance and whose eyes are blinded by rancor, foolishness and madness.

This is regardless of the fact that as statistics of the public security organs show, the smallest number of revenge crimes is perpetrated in the governorate of al-Jizah, and this is due to many reasons. These reasons include the fact that the governorate is in proximity to Cairo and that education has developed in its districts and villages.

Other examples cited in the statistics include a crime that occurred in the district of Tama, which is situated in the north of governorate of Sawhaj, where an uglier incident of revenge occurred and claimed as victim a counselor and court president. He was educated and lived in Cairo. However, the guilt for which no one would pardon him was that a crime of revenge existed between his cousins in Upper Egypt in al-Madmar village and another clan. Members of the other clan took the opportunity of his visit to the village. While he sat in the guesthouse, three persons--at first thought to be well-wishers--entered the guesthouse and showered the counselor with a hail of bullets.

The Victims Are Youths

Studies say that the emergence of revenge varies from one village to another. There are some villages in which competition for the post of chief of village was the cause. In other villages, the struggle for land ownership was the reason--and thus scores of villages are afflicted with revenge. However, the

villagers do not remember the real cause. Some of them unashamedly say: We were born this way; we found that such and such a clan is among our enemies.

However, the surprising thing which arouses anger is revenge among clans with common relatives on the maternal side and with old relationships by marriage, whereby it is imperative for a young man to kill his maternal uncle or this uncle's son, because a relative of his mother had killed his paternal uncle or his uncle's son.

In Egypt's prisons, the wards for murders offer many examples of such youths who, while in jail, frequently turn into useful members of society, having belatedly discovered the triviality of the revenge killing in which they had formerly believed.

I have met with such a young man among these prisoners: the youth had killed his maternal uncle's son, who was a law student studying with the young man at the Cairo Faculty of Law, after the young man's uncle had been accused of killing a son of the young man's paternal uncle. The struggle between the two clans had been caused by a victory in an election battle for the post of chief of village.

This young man was one of the first among those sentenced to life imprisonment for whom the iron shackles penalty was waived in 1954. He says: Neither the killer nor his victim could read or write. Therefore, why did I kill my maternal uncle's son, a law student, and go to prison? Is there an act of greater stupidity?

What makes this bad custom even more tragic is that its victims, whether dead or sentenced to imprisonment, are youths in most cases. The reason is that the older men's role is always limited to instigating and masterminding the perpetration of the crime.

The Dead, the Prisoners

The most recent survey says that in 1 year, 14 incidents of revenge crimes have occurred in the governorate of al-Minya. The accused number 64 individuals and includes 63 youths under 20 years of age and 30 youths under 30 years of age, while the rest are over 30 years old.

In Asyut, 25 incidents have occurred because of revenge seeking. The number of accused totaled 167 defendants, and among them were 41 youths under 20 years of age, while those under 30 years number 51 accused, and the rest are over 30 years old.

In the governorate of Sawhaj, 22 revenge crimes have occurred in which 147 persons are accused. Those under 20 years of age number 34 youths, while those under 30 years number 34 and the rest are of a higher age group.

So far as Qina, the record holder, is concerned, the number of crimes related to revenge, or stemming from it, amounted to 30 criminal offenses, in which

155 persons were accused. These include 41 youths under 20 years of age and 47 under 30 years, while the remaining accused are over this age bracket.

Those who read the figures carefully find that despite the rise in the number of crimes in the governorate of Qina, the number of defendants is almost always less than that in the other governorates. In Qina, they agree on the victim, who offers himself for imprisonment before the crime is committed--which is why the number of defendants becomes limited.

Infection and Mercenaries

Revenge, by virtue of its being a disturbing crime, is pertinent to wealthy families. However, poorer families have begun stimulating revenge too. A laborer working in a field might differ with another laborer, and the former might attack the latter with a blow of his axe that claims the latter as victim. Nevertheless, the victim's relatives might not be content with the security department's investigations. They collect money and hire a villain to wreak revenge on their behalf on the other laborer's family. There are some wealthy, but few, families who hire someone to take revenge for them too, if it is imperative for them to wash away their disgrace. Therefore, here and there a class of mercenaries has emerged, who are hired to kill for this or that clan. Although tiny and insignificant, this group has figured as one of the most important reasons for the entrenchment of the revenue custom and for its development. So far as the members of this group are concerned, the matter has turned into a source of livelihood. Therefore, a joke circulates which says that a widow went out to hire one of these villains, and he asked her to pay him a large sum of money. The widow complained to the villain that she would have to sell her livestock, whose milk she sells to make a living for herself and for her children, and that she owned nothing other than the livestock as a source of livelihood following the death of her husband through treachery. The villain told the widow: Keep your livestock, and I will kill your enemy for you without any wages.

Statistics also show that in the township of al-Badari, south of Asyut--and Al-Badari is a town of the Asyut governorate in which revenge is an ancient custom--a large clan was in joint ownership of a palm tree with another large clan. During the picking of the dates from the palm tree, the member of the more influential clan ambitiously wanted to acquire a slightly larger share. The member of the other clan deemed himself above submitting and seeking his recompense from God for the quantity of dates, because he thought himself not weak. So he reacted sharply to the strong man, who answered by belittling the member of the other clan. Therefore, the member of the other clan brandished his pistol and shot the strong man dead. Everybody left the dates and took to their heels. Then, the laying of ambushes began, and within 10 years, each clan had lost seven men because of a handful of dates. You would be surprised to know that each of the two families received those who interceded for a reconciliation by slaughtering calves. Therefore, how can this generosity be compatible with the killing of 14 men for the sake of a handful of dates?

A member of one of the two clans, who works as a chief of a certain town, says that this palm tree was an inheritance for the grandmother of the family

who came under attack, but the lady belonged to the family who perpetrated the attack.

One thing which may deserve attention is the fact that no incident of a revenge crime has occurred this year, which we are using as a sample year, as well as in the other years, in the governorate of Bani Suwayf--a governorate situated immediately south of al-Jizah. The question which arises is: Why are there no revenge crimes in Bani Suwayf, while these crimes shoot upward as you go further south?

In the Department of Research, Planning and Followup, led by Maj Gen Muhammad Tawfiq at the Egyptian Ministry of the Interior and by Brig Gen Wafa' Kamil, statistics and the latest reports say: Bani Suwayf is the largest governorate of Upper Egypt in terms of its land area, and farmers there do not depend totally on cultivating the land. Farmers either trade in crops or have agriculture-related trades, or they own vehicles in which they transport commodities among villages, or they own taxi cabs.

Perhaps one of the most important reasons for the general drop in crime in this governorate, which has frequently won the Shield of Security of the Ministry of the Interior, is the fact that all the governorate's villages are connected with the governorate through a good network of roads, which were previously dirt roads but which are now being asphalted--from one end to the other and from the Eastern Desert up to the Western Desert. This instills reassurance in the hearts of the farmers, who then do not look for arms. As long as farmers are assured, and as long as they do not carry arms, they never commit crimes.

How about the universities which the government has undertaken to establish in al-Minya, Asyut and Sawhaj? Have these universities proved to be useful in limiting the fierceness of the heinous crime of revenge?

The answer is given by Dr Muhammad Hilmi al-Jabali, president of the Sawhaj University and a son of Upper Egypt. He says: The age of universities in Upper Egypt does not exceed 25 years, while we find that revenge in Upper Egypt dates back to hundreds, if not to thousands, of years. However, this fact will not put us in the throes of pessimism. Things are taking a turn for the better, beyond any doubt, but at a slow pace. Furthermore, an influential factor has entered Upper Egypt and has affected the age group that deals in revenge. This factor is travel to other Arab countries. Should you refer back to statistics, you will observe that a regression has occurred in crimes in general, and in revenge crimes in particular, during the past 10 years. A man who travels and who returns with a few thousand pounds builds a house for himself and purchases luxury items. He realizes that he has self-importance and that he means something. Therefore, he does not take revenge, so he will not die or go to jail. We also find that natural evolution will overtake the universities, because we teach the young. However, travel educates the older generations.

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EGYPT

WATER RESOURCES, DROUGHT DISCUSSED IN PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 6 Jun 85 p 6

[Article by Muhammad Mu'awwad, 'Abd-al-Jawwad 'Ali and Sharif al-'Abd: "People's Assembly Discusses Preparations To Face Drought; Government Announces National Program To Set Guidelines for Proper Use of Irrigation Water; Minister of Irrigation Announces, 'Proper Use of Irrigation and Drinking Water Are More Important Than the Drought Problem'"]

[Text] Members of both the majority and the opposition warned against the wasteful use of water during a People's Assembly meeting that was chaired by Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub. The warning was issued after it became evident that we were throwing away into the sea about 14 billion cubic meters of irrigation water annually. We were also throwing away 4 billion cubic meters of water as a result of operating the High Dam electrical power plant to generate electricity.

The warning came in the course of a broad debate on the drought in Africa that was held by the People's Assembly.

Engineer 'Isam Radi, the minister of irrigation, announced that there was a national project to set proper guidelines for the use of irrigation water by improving water drainage in canals.

The assembly then considered the subject of the drought in Africa in the light of a report prepared by the Agriculture and Irrigation Committee. The report, which was presented to the assembly by Engineer William Sayfin, comprised several recommendations including one that called for reconsidering the amount of water wasted when the river is dammed up during the winter to operate the turbines of the High Dam. Maintenance operations in factories, such as the Kima factory and the aluminum plant, are to be carried out when the river is dammed up during the winter. The Ministry of Irrigation is to have total control over installations that are built on the Nile, and it is to control water levels, including those in the High Dam and at hydroelectric power plants. Emphasis should be placed on planting agricultural crops that consume less water, and the areas that have been designated for rice cultivation should be reconsidered since the cultivation of rice consumes a lot of water. Suitable drainage water is to be directly utilized as much as possible in irrigation, or it may be mixed with other water. Ground water is to be utilized; new wells are to be built; and irrigation methods are to be developed so that spraying or sprinkling methods

can be used to conserve water and prevent its waste. Only areas that are actually cultivated are to receive water for irrigation.

Then the debate started. Yasin Siraj-al-Din, a member of the Wafd Party, spoke first and said, "Only God knows when it will rain. However, it is the government's responsibility to come up with measures to face the drought that is sweeping Africa and the possibility that its effects may extend into Egypt. The Nile and the drought are two matters that are inseparable. This is something that requires more care on our part so we can set proper guidelines for water usage and conserve the water we need for agriculture and drinking. I do not agree with the Minister of Irrigation's view which is more optimistic than reality warrants. The water level in the lake in front of the High Dam continues to decline because no new water is coming into the lake from the branches of the Nile. Studies affirm that at the present time there are 30 billion cubic meters of water in the lake but that we need 52 billion cubic meters of water this year. Where will the minister of irrigation find water to make up for this big difference? Although I am not very fearful this year, I do caution that we could have disasters next year if the drought in Africa continues."

Beware the Drought!

Sa'd Hajras, chairman of the Agriculture and Irrigation Committee affirmed, "The situation this year is reassuring. There is no fear, and there is no panic. Any fear would have an effect on the makeup of the state's agricultural crops this year. This problem points out that setting guidelines for the proper use of water on scientific principles is imperative. There is much waste in using irrigation water. Egypt uses 8,000 cubic meters of water to irrigate a single feddan. That figure is much higher than water usage rates in the world: the average world rate of water usage for the same area of land is no more than 17 cubic meters. Egypt throws away into the sea about 14 billion cubic meters of irrigation water annually. In addition, it also throws away into the sea 4 billion cubic meters of water as a result of operating the High Dam power plant to generate power. We have to be careful here even though we are quite hopeful and are praying that God will bless us with water. We hope the High Dam lake will again be full of water. We are now taking water from the lake whose water level is about to reach its lowest point."

Engineer 'Abd-al-Hadi Samahah explained, "The situation is not as bad as it's been described by the members. There are other sources of water. Sudan has not yet consumed all its quota, and part of that quota still comes to Egypt. A mathematical computation would show us that there is hope this year for an increase in flood waters. We have reached the end of the years during which the waters of the Nile have been receding, and we are beginning the years during which the waters of the Nile will increase. News and travelers are also affirming that the rain is beginning to fall on the plateau in Ethiopia. Also, most of the refugees in Sudan have gone back to their homes in Ethiopia, where the rainfall has been heavy, so they can catch up with the planting season. Also the water level in Somalia's rivers, which get their water from the plateau in Ethiopia, is higher than average. All this bodes well for us; it indicates that the years of the drought are coming to an end. I am not guessing about the unknown here; I am rather making predictions that are based on conditions in the Upper Nile region.

"What happened in the past years makes it incumbent upon us to use irrigation water properly; we must conserve water, not waste it. The amount of water that is lost from the drinking water system comes to 60 percent of the supply. If this continues, then by the year 2000 Egypt will be consuming about 6 billion cubic meters of water, and that rate of consumption is very high for the population, in relation to the ideal rate of consumption for drinking water."

Engineer Ibrahim Shukri said, "Our aim is to utilize the water we have. To us a drop of water represents life. There is a good project in al-Minufiyah that provides ground water; it should be expanded into other areas, but I think that artesian wells should be located at the termination points of canals. I would go along with considering water a cost factor because we want water usage to become economical."

"Ground water in al-Wadi al-Jadid [New Valley] is not connected to the water system we are using now. That water must become our strategic water reserve. We want a government program that would face the problem and make every ministry accountable for its responsibilities."

Ni'mah Isma'il Yadim said, "There are drought conditions in Marsa Matruh where the water shortage is severe. There is a condenser that provides water, but using the water stored in the condenser would be dangerous because it would cause pollution."

Will the Clouds over Sinai Bring Rainfall in Israel?

'Abd-al-Mun'im Husayn said, "It is our duty now to continue making preparations for the drought. A study is being conducted in Israel to drag the clouds from the skies of Sinai so that the rain would fall in Israel. Work on the Jonglei Canal must continue."

'Inayat Abu al-Yazid said, "Irrigation water is being wasted. The Ministry of Irrigation must assume full control over installations on the Nile."

Wajihah al-Zalabani said, "Setting the proper guidelines for the use of irrigation water can be done by developing irrigation systems and utilizing more modern systems that conserve water. We must reconsider the cultivation of crops, like rice and sugar cane, that consume large quantities of water. We pray God that this will be the last of the lean years."

Mustafa Husayn asked that we turn our attention to water desalination. He said we could use desalinated water in agriculture just as other neighboring countries are doing. He asked that the land around the High Dam lake be utilized in planting essential crops.

Engineer 'Isam Radi, the minister of irrigation commented, "I would go along with those who are asking for better utilization of irrigation water. If we had utilized the waters from the High Dam in a better fashion during the past years, we could have saved large amounts of water. We may resort to efforts to publicize the proper use of water. We expect this year to be the last year of the drought in Africa. This optimism comes with some caution--about one percent

only--and it is that caution that makes me continue to ask for and work for better water usage. The Nile Water Observation Authority is working now to bring about better utilization of Nile water resources. If there is waste in water usage, it is normal because it is the result of agricultural drainage.

"There is a national project to set proper guidelines for the use of irrigation water. This project is patterned after the national project for covered drainage. This project will be carried out by the proper drainage of water in canals. The country is to be divided into agricultural sections, and pipes are to be used to carry water from one section to another in some areas. Methods of irrigation are to be developed and irrigation by spraying and sprinkling is to be utilized.

"But water desalination is very costly. I salute the committee on its report. The government will try to carry out the recommendations that were made in the report."

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EGYPT

BRIEFS

VISITS WITH MOSCOW PENDING--It is expected that Dr Usamah al-Baz, Egyptian deputy foreign minister and director of President Husni Mubarak's political affairs office, will soon travel to Moscow at the invitation of officials there. It is well known that visits have not been exchanged for more than 10 years. However, these visits will not convince people that profound changes will occur in Egypt's foreign relations. [Text] [London AL-Tadamun in Arabic 27 Apr 85 p 6]

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LIBYA

INTERVIEW WITH 'ABD-AL-SALAM JALLUD

Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 13 May 85 p 3

[Interview with 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud by Hashim Karar and Mustafa Abu al-'Aza'im: Jallud Tells AL-AYYAM, 'We Are not Pro-Marxists; We Believe in Religion and Nationalism; We Are Urging the Masses To Destroy the Culture of Parties and Classes';" in Khartoum; date of interview not specified]

[Text] "The secret lies in the fact that al-Jamahiriyah is in the heart of people's revolutions."

"The Egypt that ratified Camp David is still blacklisted!"

"Unity is essential in the rationales of both Ibn Rushd and al-Ghazali."

You, [the reader], can personally meet with Jallud. You can ask him that question that you believe is embarrassing, and you will receive an answer that is delivered with tolerance and understanding. There are neither barriers nor restrictions; there is no misunderstanding and no intolerance.

To us Jallud is the second man in the Libyan Jamahiriyah, but according to Libya's revolutionary populist logic, he is one of the masses. He emerged as the product of its dreams and sorrows and became its agent provocateur, letting Libyans discover shameful facts about their country every day so they could destroy them and build on those ruins an ideal cultural alternative.

The interview with Mr Jallud, which was conducted in the Hilton Hotel, went on till the early hours of the morning. Finally, we thought we would let Mr Jallud get some rest; he was to leave Khartoum at 9 a.m. Let's go in now and talk with Maj Jallud.

[Question] Let's begin where the talks between Sudan and Libya ended. How do you view these talks, and what do you think are their most prominent results?

[Answer] The talks were good and comprehensive; they were conducted in an atmosphere of profound understanding, friendship and warmth--the warm feelings that usually tie together those nations that share the same destiny, the same future and the same major objectives. The talks dealt with the bilateral

relations between the Sudanese and Libyan peoples; the destiny of the Arab nation; the dangers that are standing in its way; and the role of the great people of Sudan in the national movement after having overthrown the tyrant Numayri and his client regime. As far as results are concerned, we achieved results that are most certainly up to the level of the two peoples' aspirations. Just as we in Libya stood alongside the Sudanese people during their predicament until they overthrew the dictatorship and the totalitarian government, we will most certainly stand on their side as they oppose with determination and boldness all the accumulated problems that they inherited from the wicked dictatorship. We will always stand beside the great people of Sudan until all their internal battles can be crowned with victory.

[Question] Here in Sudan, we have a special and distinguished relationship with Egypt. Our relationship with the fraternal country of Libya is also special and distinguished. From this perspective, don't you think that we can play an effective role in removing the misunderstanding between you and the Egyptians?

[Answer] Let me, first of all, make a distinction between the regime in Egypt and the great people of Egypt: the people who are now boycotting with their profound and progressive understanding the Israeli goods that have been piling up in Egyptian markets. We used to make that same distinction between Numayri's client regime and the people of Sudan: people who have strength of character and a revolutionary legacy for the present and the future. The relationship between Egypt and Sudan is special and distinguished, and that is good. The Sudanese people are free to make their choices. However, we do not think--and this too is one of our choices--that Sudan has any role to play between Libya and the Egypt that ratified Camp David and betrayed the cause. Once again, I am referring to the Egyptian regime and not to the Egyptian people.

The decision that Arab countries boycott Egypt was made at the Baghdad Summit. All the Arab countries except Numayri and Qabus boycotted Egypt. Thus, Numayri's client regime was recognizing in theory the Israeli enemy through Camp David. Moreover, Numayri met with Begin at the funeral of the traitor, al-Sadat, and he walked next to him during the funeral procession.

Just as we were boycotting Sudan under Numayri's client regime, which supported Camp David, we will continue to boycott Egypt as long as it supports Camp David. Let me say for the third time that I am referring to the regime and not to the people of Egypt. Starting out from this unshakable position of principle we think that Sudan is free to choose its relations. However, we still do and will continue to insist on the Baghdad Summit resolution. To us, the Egypt that supports Camp David is still on the black list.

[Question] But there are a few countries that restored relations with Egypt, and some countries, like Iraq and Jordan, for example, are about to.

[Answer] It is our duty to be vigilant in this situation; let's be cautious and vigilant. One conspiracy against the Arab nation has ended and another has begun. And a series of conspiracies against the nation and the cause will follow.

Now a new conspiracy has emerged: it is a conspiracy between the United States and Arab reactionaries. This is a conspiracy between the United States, on the one hand, and 'Arafat, Saddam Husayn, King Husayn and Husni Mubarak, on the other. This time the aim of the conspiracy is to Arabize Camp David and apply it to all the Arabs. We are saying that Egypt should return to the Arab nation, and they, the Arab reactionaries, are also saying that Egypt should return to the Arab nation. The slogan is the same, but whereas we do mean that Egypt should return to the Arab nation, what they mean is that the Arabs should go back to Egypt! This was blatantly stated at the Islamic Summit Conference where Numayri, 'Arafat, Zia-ul-Haq and (Seco Toure) sponsored a resolution in favor of Egypt's return to the Islamic Conference as a preliminary step to its return to the Arab League with the sin of Camp David still weighing heavily on it. We said then that Egypt's return to the Islamic Conference was an Islamic gesture but that its purport was American. We in Libya, along with Syria, opposed that move so as to expose that plan and reveal this ugly reactionary conspiracy to the Arab masses who still have power over the essence of the cause and who are still resisting capitulation.

Glory to the masses! The masses in the Arab homeland are now against those decisions that reek with the stench of collusion, treason and capitulation. 'Arafat is betraying the Palestinian cause now, and the masses have come to realize that. A broad front that comprises all Palestinian factions under the rubric of the Palestinian Revolution Salvation Front has now been formed against 'Arafat. This front wants to save Palestinian guns and ammunition; it wants to save the Palestinian cause. The masses are against 'Arafat now; armed Palestinians are against 'Arafat. There are six factions in the Liberation Front against 'Arafat; and more than two thirds of the PNC are against 'Arafat.

[Question] The magnitude of the danger that is threatening the Arab nation appears to be clear now.

[Answer] The conspiracy is a grave one, and the dangers come in cycles that are becoming more and more worrisome. There is the danger of an American solution and the danger of an imperialist-Zionist attack. There is a series of dangers threatening to break up the Arab nation into sectarian mini-states, factions and entities. There are the dangers of a vicious imperialist, Zionist attack on the Palestinian organization. The dangers come in a series of cycles, but the Arab masses who still have power over the essence of the cause, can destroy these cycles of danger with their steadfastness, their boldness and their defiance. Yes, the Arab masses can do that. Yesterday, the Lebanese masses destroyed one of these dangers: they taught the United States its second lesson after Vietnam. The alliance between Syria, Libya, Palestinians who will not surrender and the Lebanese masses has shattered the myth of the [invincible] Zionist machinery and exposed the lie about the marines and the rapid deployment forces. The Israeli enemy, heavily armed with heavy and light weapons, is now withdrawing from Lebanon. The enemy is withdrawing unconditionally. Every person in Lebanon has turned into a highly explosive device--and that has been acknowledged by both Rabin and Perez--that could explode in front of, behind and ahead of both the Israeli and American enemies.

What is happening today in the great country of Lebanon is the beginning of a major national awakening. The Arab nation is waking up, even as it is being subjected to more plans, more pressures and more dangers. The United States

could return to the area by means of its capitulatory solutions, and with that U.S. military bases and U.S. rapid deployment forces would return to the area. There would be open season on what countries hold in esteem, and the resources of the homeland, the entire Arab homeland, would be drained.

[Question] What is the solution then?

[Answer] The solution lies in unity, immediate unity. The masses in Sudan, Iraq, Libya, Egypt and the rest of the Arab countries should propose unity and work tirelessly until it is achieved.

[Question] Unity? Oh, yes! But what form of unity are you talking about?

[Answer] Unity in any form is certainly an essential step in such a difficult age. We could have a merger, a regional unity, integration or a confederation. The ideal unity, however, is, of course, that which would take place between similar regimes. Of course, in such a difficult age we can neither ignore nor overlook the reality of the region, but unity in any form is absolutely essential.

[Question] But history, the history of Arab unity, has been full of failure. We say this and there is much evidence of it: the United Arab Republic, for example.

[Answer] This was not failure; it was a vicious enemy attack on unity, and it led to a kind of frustration for a while. These experiences, however, have enriched ideas about unity, and they brought the movement of the masses closer. This is an evaluation of previous experiences with unity. Unity has become a fact in the minds and consciousness of the masses; it is part of their daily activities. We must not despair. The attack against us is a major one, but we will win and the Arab nation will play its historic role as the driving force for revolutionary movements in the world. The Arab nation is the third power in the world. It has awesome capabilities: its history, geography, resources and manpower.

Let us now set forth a formula for unity, any formula. The wishes of the masses must be moved from the realm of a possible slogan to that of possible action. Slogans must be turned into action so that the gap between the Arab nation and the advanced world can be closed. Unity is the key to all the issues of the Arab nation. Studies in Europe now indicate that the 21st century will become the century of much production and more consumption. These studies indicate that communities of less than 150 million persons will have fewer and fewer opportunities for development. Therefore, according to the rationale of Ibn Rushd and that of al-Ghazali as well, unity becomes essential.

[Question] All evidence, signs and events that have been set forth in the Arab homeland indicate that the movement toward unity was active in the sixties and early seventies but that disputes between the Arab regimes and even, unfortunately, between the masses developed after that.

[Answer] Regimes are undoubtedly the enemies of unity. Unity is the cause of the masses. History states that the movement toward unity was undermined by a

conspiracy between imperialism and Zionism and a conspiracy between regimes. Conspiracies against unity followed each other in cycles: the masses were set aside and kept away from their fundamental cause of unity. Education, awareness and a people's striking force are certainly needed to achieve unity.

[Question] What then has been your role in Libya in the process of moving the question of unity from the realm of a catching slogan to that of action?

[Answer] The pro-unity revolutionary forces in the Libyan Jamahiriya have been prodding the masses to achieve unity. There is much evidence that this is being done. Suffice it to say that we induced the people of Libya to join an awesome march of 1,500 kilometers from the Tunisian borders to the Egyptian borders when al-Sadat declared war on Israel. The pro-unity revolutionary forces did play an active role in stirring up the masses, and they are still playing that role. However, the victory of the masses inside the country will continue to be a condition for the great national awakening. And that awakening will come! Socialism was once a mere slogan, and so was democracy. Unity will come; it has become a condition. This is an age of blocs, and dwarfs have no place in it.

[Question] But this role that you, in the Libyan Jamahiriya, are playing is one that many see as an adolescent, childish role. Even your experience in that regard has also been seen by many people as nothing more than some kind of joke. What do you say to that?

[Answer] We in the Libyan Jamahiriya are being subjected to a kind of conspiracy similar to that which France was subjected to after the republican revolution. Europe had then been mobilized against the republic. And now that Libya has unleashed the theory of the masses, which is antithetical to the theory of governments, it is being besieged by royal and reactionary regimes who fear that the experiment may move into their territory. And it will. The revolution of the masses will ultimately be victorious. All conspiracy attempts are nothing more than attempts to buck the tide of nations. Numayri conspired with all the imperialist and reactionary forces to overthrow the revolutionary regime in Libya, but the great people of Sudan overthrew Numayri and his client regime. And the same was true of the Shah and Franco. Did I not tell you that that was some kind of bucking the tide? We know about the proportions of the conspiracy. Client forces have no fear of tankers and weapons arsenals, but they become terrified of ideas, populist ideas. Ideas such as those which state that "A home belongs to its occupant;" "Partisanship aborts democracy;" "There can be no democracy without popular committees;" "The authority of the people but not a parliamentary authority;" and so on and so forth terrify these forces. These are the slogans that terrify imperialism, Zionism and Arab reactionaries. They are the same slogans that appeal to the aspirations of the masses, move their emotions and constitute the sum total of their dreams. These slogans can singlehandedly defend themselves in the midst of conspiracies and plots.

[Question] It was impossible to put an end to 'Abd-al-Nasir from the inside. That experience was protected by the masses. Therefore, imperialist plots to put an end to 'Abd-al-Nasir came from outside the country one after another: unity with Yemen was aborted; Egypt was dragged into a war in Yemen; and so on and so forth. The intent here was to dissipate 'Abd-al-Nasir's forces so it would be easy to strike him down. Now, history is repeating itself. You are taking the

revolution to Nicaragua, Upper Volta, Chad, Niger, Iran, Ethiopia, Ireland, Latin America and elsewhere. Don't you think that the same plot is at work here?

[Answer] 'Abd-al-Nasir's approach was a national one. National decisions were made in Egypt after feudalists and reactionaries were defeated. The approach then was to take the revolution beyond the borders of the country to protect it. The decision for unity was a national decision, and the decision to go to war in Yemen was a national and revolutionary decision as well, and that was enough. The unity experiment has enriched ideas about unity. It is enough that the war in Yemen liberated Yemen and brought the republic to that country.

And just as it became impossible to put an end to 'Abd-al-Nasir from inside the country, it became impossible to do that from outside. That is a fact. Any revolution that isolates itself within its own borders is one that has ordered its own execution in a dark chamber. That is why we are fighting alongside revolutionaries in Nicaragua and in Ireland. That is why we are quite involved in Latin American revolutions. That is why we are with Iran, with Ethiopia, with the revolution anywhere in the world. This is not just the cause of the Libyan people; it is the cause of all peoples. The survival of the Libyan Revolution and the secret of its victories lie in the fact that it did not isolate itself. It did not lock the doors. The secret behind the victories and the survival of the revolution of the People's Jamahiriya lies with the people and the revolutions and....

[Question] It may be appropriate now to talk about the Jamahiriya theory. Many people are saying that it is a theory based on anarchy and defended by anarchists.

[Answer] Jallud smiled and said, "The Jamahiriya theory is not a theory of anarchy. Confusing between anarchists and revolutionaries is one of the series of conspiracies against the Libyan Revolution which has been working continuously to expose the status quo, destroy it and find a civilized alternative to it. Like other theories, the Jamahiriya theory has its economic laws, its mechanisms and its structures. The Jamahiriya theory is a theory that is close to life; it came forth from life itself to bring about a final solution to the question of authority by settling the struggle for power in favor of those who are truly entitled to it: the masses."

[Question] Let's rule out the capitalist theory and ask, what are the differences between you and the communists? What is the difference between the Jamahiriya theory and Marxism?

[Answer] There are many differences. The communist theory is based on the party and the rule of the proletariat. A Jamahiriya is based on the rule of the people and the rule of the masses.

The Jamahiriya theory believes in religion and nationalism as dynamic forces in history.

The Jamahiriya theory believes in "being" and "destiny." Communism is a theory that came about as part of the general revolutionary theory that emerged in the 18th century. The Jamahiriya theory came about in the 20th century to destroy

the class and party culture as well as the capitalist culture and to transfer power with its tools to the people, all the people.

The conversation with Maj Jallud was stimulating, enjoyable and productive. It was almost 4 a.m., and the airplane which was to fly Maj Jallud back to fraternal Libya was scheduled to take off at exactly 9 a.m.

We thought the man should get a little rest.

We bid him farewell, but we still wanted to talk with him some more even as we took the elevator down from the 11th floor of the Hilton Hotel.

8592

CSO: 4504/343

LIBYA

ALLEGED VOA ATTACKS ON JAMAHIRIYAH CRITICIZED

Valetta THE JAMAHIRIYAH MAIL in English 4 May 85 p 12

[Text]

□ THE American government and its official media including the Voice of America (VOA) repeated a number of lies and fabricated claims regarding the decision of the Libyan Arab people to eradicate manipulation and to liberate themselves from the circles of monopolistic companies, their direction of consumption, the building of a chain of people's supermarkets and ridding the country of the western way of life.

JANA political editor commented on these claims: only a few days after the American government's official flagrant attack on the establishment of the "command of revolutionary forces" in the Arab homeland, the American ruling officials circles in Washington returned to directing new lies against Jamahiriya, clearly defining the field of confrontation which the American government chose in its hostility towards Libya which is the target for direct attack and broadcasting of claims aimed at undermining the achievements of the Libyan Arab people and their fundamental options, thereby ignoring a clear and sim-

ple fact that what is taking place in Libya has surpassed the phase of American analyses and prediction and that Washington's politicians should finally understand that the wheel of time in Libya will not go back.

The US government allowed itself, through the Voice of America radio, to broadcast a series of fabrications and baseless news which the Zionist media, in this period and for reasons the whole world is aware of, is spreading against Libya.

While we are keen to clarify some facts, it is not a reply but to explain some misconceptions that accompany this US-Zionist reactionary move, at this specific period it is only natural that Washington's politicians, whose calculations had all gone wrong with the victory of the people's revolution in Sudan and their trumpets in the regime of Hosni Mubarak also failed, try to contain the 6th of April revolution in Khartoum. It is natural that they try to distract the attention of the masses of the Arab streets, especially those of the Egyptian streets, in

this specific period, by the fabrication of lies against one of the major steadfast fortresses in the Arab homeland, that is Libya, which became the representative of the Arab nation and which has passed the stage of fearing America and has become a real concern of the U.S. government and its pawns in the Arab countries, east or west.

Naturally, they try to mislead the Arab masses by fabricating despicable imaginary stories with regard to the situation inside Libya. Libya is the only country that declared and is still declaring, that its boundaries are open unconditionally and without any restrictions to the Arab and African masses that suffer from the rising of their daily bread prices, whether in Egypt or any other coun-

try in the Arab great homeland or Africa. These price rises are caused by the greed of the U.S. government and its looting of these countries' wealth.

Also it is natural that the U.S. government and its trumpets continue their attacks on the choices of a people which have confirmed that there is no freedom for a country that is fed from beyond its boundaries, to attack a country which the reports of the specialised agencies had admitted that it was able to surpass one of the gravest of economic crises our present day world has witnessed.

This came despite the economic embargo and war the U.S. had declared and the undisguised call from Washington to its allies to follow suit.

CSO: 4500/119

LIBYA

MEMBERS OF GIRLS MILITARY COLLEGE SUPPORT SUICIDE OPERATIONS

Valetta THE JAMAHIRIYAH MAIL in English 4 May 85 p 10

[Text]

• **MEMBERS** of the Girls Military College have sent the following cable to the Leader of the Revolution:-

In the midst of our April 7 celebrations marking the students revolution and the triumph of the popular revolution in the Sudan which has ended a reactionary regime that was unable to remain steadfast for long in the face of the free masses' will, we address to you our greetings, we the carriers of the armour, the sisters of Sana'a Mjidli, Dalal Al Maghribi, Hind, and Ama'a Bint Abi Bakr. In the light of our revolutionary orientations, we, the members of the girls military college, once again announce our ever lasting unity with you to wage the battle of liberation.

We also announce that we will turn into brides of blood like Sana'a Mjidli, the bride of the South. We reject the life of superficialities and luxury. We refuse to be brides of gold and silks, besmirched by dishonourable dignity, leaving Arab reaction to discuss women's freedom.

We announce our becoming Fedayi factions for suicide operations. This, to teach men in the Arab homeland the way of militancy, hoping that their manhood will be awakened and that they leave behind the traditional military routine of the traditional regular armies, because the cause can only be won by suicidal armed struggle, by the rifle which is the only legitimate way. We refuse a travel visa to Europe stained by humiliation and disgrace, one that is taken by the Arab who is stripped before the world of his Arab values.

Instead, we will make red visas with our Arab blood, to enter the world of dignity. We are the ones that will trace the road with our bodies and irrigate the land with our blood, in Lebanon, in Palestine and the Golan. Here are the heroes of our dreams and our blood brides spreading destruction on our zionist enemies.

CSO: 4500/118

SUDAN

BRIEFS

NUMAYRI'S BLUE NILE PALACE--Khartoum, 1 June (SUNA)--While people were dying from famine in Sudan, the world food basket, the leader of the Islamic renaissance was busy cutting off hands and feet of the poor and was also contemplating the erection of a huge royal palace situated on the eastern edge of the Blue Nile in Khartoum, the AL-SAHFAH daily reported today. The paper also printed the blueprint of the palace which was planned to occupy 17 hectares. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English 0947 GMT 1 Jun 85 JN]

TRAINS FACE THEFT, LOOTING--Khartoum, Ramadan 12, 31 May, SUNA--Freight trains transporting relief materials to the drought-plagued areas in western Sudan have been subjected to theft and looting operations, the railway corporation said. Spokesman for the cooperation yesterday told SUNA that the railway police force almost thwarted these attempts and precautions will be taken by calling out some army troops to escort the relief freight trains. The spokesman called on the administrative bodies concerned with distributing the relief to carry out its job and evenly distribute the relief to the stricken people to help curbing the theft and looting operations. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English 1036 GMT 31 May 85 JN]

DISTRIBUTION OF U.S. AID--Fashir, Sudan, 31 May, SUNA--The Darfur Region military Governor Lt Gen Abu-al-Qasim 'Adlan has issued directives to the region's executives to distribute the American sorghum free of charge to the citizens in line with Transitional Military Council 'TMC' Chairman Gen 'Abd-al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab's orders in the wake of his tour of the region last week. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English 1044 GMT 31 May 85 JN]

INDUSTRIAL SYMPOSIUM--Khartoum, Ramadan 12, 31 May, SUNA--The Sudan has participated in a symposium on "Industrial Ownership in the Arab Countries" held 6-10 May in Geneva, Switzerland. The commercial general registrar Sa'id Muhammad Yusuf stated that Sudan delegation had presented at the symposium a number of topics touching on the industrial ownership acts in the Arab countries and the importance of coordination among these countries. He said Sudan delegation had demanded the holding of joint meetings among Arab countries in this sphere and called for holding a similar symposium in one of the Arab countries for laying down a general framework committing to these countries. The symposium was organized by the international organization for the industrial ownership in cooperation with UN development program. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English 1025 GMT 31 May 85 JN]

PRIME MINISTER'S INTERVIEWS--Khartoum, Ramadan 12, 31 May, (SUNA)--Prime Minister al-Jazuli Daf'allah was interviewed separately yesterday by AL-AYYAM daily newspaper, the Japanese TV, the Saudi AL-MADINAH newspaper, and a Libyan information mission. The interviews focused on the transitional government priorities, Sudan foreign policy, and its current political issues. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English 1020 GMT 31 May 85 JN]

ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS--Khartoum, Ramadan 11, 30 May (SUNA)--The Ummah national new party-leader al-Sadiq al-Mahdi revealed in an interview with the daily newspaper AL-SAHFAH today that ousted Numayri has plotted to assassinate and to liquidate him three times from 1975 to 1985. Al-Mahdi disclosed that the first attempt was in 1975 by security organ members. The second one was in 1980 by agents of Khashuqqi, the Saudi businessman, and the third when he was released from the prison and was due to be tried and executed like Mahmud Taha, the leader of the republican brothers. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English 1035 GMT 30 May 85 JN]

COMMITTEE TO INTERROGATE FORMER MANAGER--Khartoum, Ramadan 9, 28 May, (SUNA)--A local committee has been set up to investigate any charges against the former general manager of SUNA Mustafa Amin. The committee formed by the attorney general under the chairmanship of the legal advisor and the membership of a representative of police and the auditor generals chamber is also assigned to investigate with any staff of SUNA or the minister of information whom investigation might find questionable. [Excerpt] [Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT 28 May 85 JN]

STORMS, RAINS INUNDATE EQUATORIA REGION--Juba, 21 May (SUNA)--Storms and rains inundated Equatoria Region last week, claiming the lives of eight people and leaving several families homeless. Four out of the seven bodies were recovered, police sources said. Last Wednesday rains poured for nearly 2 hours reaching an 83 milimeter level, compared to 131.3 mm in 1982, meteorological sources here said. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English 1734 GMT 21 May 85 JN]

ATTACK ON AMIR HIT--Kuwait, 27 May (SUNA)--The Sudanese community in Kuwait yesterday denounced the criminal assault against the Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah. In a statement issued yesterday the community said the criminal aggression against al-Sabah's life is really aggression against the human principles and values and against the security and stability of the whole Arab nation. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English 1010 GMT 27 May 85 JN]

TRANSPORTATION OF RELIEF MATERIALS--Port Sudan, Ramadan 13, 1 June (SUNA)--The transportation of the relief materials from Port Sudan to the drought plagued areas has improved very much, Dort said, official source at the port said. [graph as received] The source said concerted efforts were made by the national committee for combat of drought and desertification to transport and distribute the reliefs, he said. During the last 2 weeks the transportation operations were actuated and a tangible progress was registered at the port, he added. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English 1008 GMT 1 Jun 85 JN]

CSO: 4500/126

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR AMBASSADOR TO MOZAMBIQUE DISCUSSES CURRENT ISSUES

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 21 May 85 p 3

[Interview with Ambassador Brahim Mokhtar by Bernardo Mavanga, in Mozambique; 18 May 85]

[Text] Last Saturday, Brahim Mokhtar, the ambassador of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic accredited to our country, granted our newspaper an interview in which he hailed the solidarity and friendship which the Mozambican people and their vanguard, the FRELIMO Party, have offered to the Saharan people in their struggle to regain sovereignty, stability and peace in Western Sahara.

The Saharan diplomat said: "I acclaim this solidarity, shown from the beginning of our armed struggle. Mozambique was among the first countries to recognize the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and, based on its tradition of identification with other peoples, is one of the countries with which we have the best amicable relations."

During the interview, which took place on the occasion (yesterday) marking the 12th anniversary of the start of the armed struggle for national liberation by the people of Western Sahara, that African country's ambassador expressed wishes for the prosperity and progress of the Mozambican people, whom he regards as part of his people.

At the meeting, Brahim Mokhtar discussed, among other topics, the progress of the Saharan people's struggle against the invading Moroccan army, the conquests made in the military and diplomatic areas and also points illustrating the socioeconomic development achieved throughout the 12 years of the people's struggle for emancipation. Brahim Mokhtar considers the overall situation on the African continent to be extremely serious, because of the fact that it is a victim of natural disasters and armed bandits serving imperialist extra-continental forces. He condemned the "apartheid" system, "responsible for the instability that is being experienced in the area of Southern Africa."

[Question] Mr Ambassador, what is the historical significance of the date 20 May to the Saharan people and how did this occasion occur?

[Answer] On 20 May we commemorate the start of the armed struggle for national liberation. It was on 20 May 1973 that some Saharan patriots, after realizing

the impossibility of gaining our people's independence through peaceful means, and after having organized peaceful demonstrations to demand our legitimate right to national sovereignty, without any success, decided, at a constructive congress held on 10 May 1973, to create the National Liberation Front, the POLISARIO Front [Popular (Front) for the Liberation of Saguia el Hamra and Rio de Oro (Western Sahara)], which initiated the armed struggle 10 days thereafter.

At first, it was a very small and very poorly armed group of men, but men filled with confidence in the future and representative with respect to our people's legitimate aspirations. There was a very noticeable progress in our struggle with the passage of time, which enabled us, 2 and a half years later, to force the Spanish colonialists to withdraw from most of the territory of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and merely to continue occupying our country's capital and some other cities on the coast.

The rest was liberated territory. Naturally, this victory did not suit the imperialist strategy for our region; and hence, observing that the Spanish colonialists were collapsing, the colonialists, in cooperation with the imperialists, decided on 14 November 1975 to replace Spanish colonialism with a new colonialism, a colonialism of one African country imposed upon another African country. Therefore, at that time Morocco and Mauritania colonized the SDAR.

Understandably, our struggle continued, and there was no change. We were combating colonialism and we continued to combat colonialism. Two years later, in 1977, Mauritania, which was an extremely weak country, could not withstand the burden of the war and was forced to sign a peace agreement with the POLISARIO Front in 1979. Since then, the Republic of Mauritania has recognized the SDAR and has maintained extremely good relations with us. The war against the Moroccans continued. There have been many changes in the Moroccan military strategy. What we can claim today, 12 years later, is that we control 80 percent of the country and we have the Moroccan troops in the section that they still occupy in check.

The victories on the political, social and diplomatic levels have been enormous. We have proclaimed the SDAR as an independent state, the embodiment of our people's most legitimate aspirations. It is a state which has been recognized by an impressive number of countries all over the world. It is a full-fledged member of the Organization of African Unity [OAU] and has relations with many countries, liberation movements and political parties.

In the social realm, we have succeeded in organizing our people in the POLISARIO Front and in creating infrastructures for both health and education, as well as for supplies. We have succeeded in ending illiteracy in the SDAR's liberated areas.

It must be remembered that the Spanish colonialists left us with 99 percent of the people illiterate, and now we have changed that situation completely.

The illiteracy in the SDAR has been eliminated 99 percent in the SDAR's liberated areas. We have educated all children of school age and we have made major advances in the health area.

The accomplishments during these past 12 years since the start of the armed struggle in the SDAR have been impressive.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, hasn't this recent change of government in Mauritania coinciding with the triggering of the offensive in the Great Magreb, changed that country's position with respect to the POLISARIO Front's struggle?

[Answer] The change in government that has occurred in Mauritania had its origin in Mauritanian internal problems. The first declaration by the new government after of coup d'etat of 12 December of last year was to recognize the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic as a sovereign, independent country, and the POLISARIO Front as the legitimate representative of the Saharan people. "We wish to maintain the best relations with this country," was what the president of Mauritania said after the coup d'etat. Hence, we have not observed any kind of change in the Mauritanian position, despite the fact that it has reestablished diplomatic relations with Morocco quite recently. But we respect the sovereign decisions made by sovereign, independent countries such as Mauritania, provided they do not affect our situation.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, could you explain to us whether the accord for unity established last year between Morocco and Libya will affect the struggle of the Saharan people for their sovereignty, and to what extent?

[Answer] I would like to begin by describing the accord for unity between Morocco and Libya as an unnatural accord; unnatural because the nature of the regimes signing it is different. In Morocco, the regime is monarchical, retrogressive, anachronistic, expansionist, reactionary and a lackey of imperialism in our region. On the other hand, the State of the Jamahiriya which, according to the Libyan concept, represents the height of democracy, is a progressive country. Hence we can see that the nature of these two regimes really causes the accord to be an unnatural accord, which addresses only the temporary needs of the two countries, and is doomed to failure.

Insofar as the SDAR is concerned, we point out that Libya has cut off all military, social and economic assistance to the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. We had over 3,000 students attending school in Libya; now we have none. We are receiving absolutely nothing from Libya. We still have diplomatic relations. We still have our embassy in Libya. What we can say is that Libya's decision has not had any effect on the progress in the area of the armed struggle; on the contrary. On 13 October of this year we began the Great Magreb offensive, which is a military offensive of large scope, against the Moroccan troops stationed on the walls. And it was without Libya's backing that we surmounted the walls of Moroccan defense. Of course we have proven that the lack of the support which Libya gave us in the past is not affecting the continuation of the armed struggle in the SDAR.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, has Libya imposed any condition for continuing to lend support to the Saharan people's struggle?

[Answer] What we are still trying to understand is the reasons that prompted Libya to abandon the POLISARIO Front; because we were not given any explanation on that level. Libya abandoned us at a time when the SDAR was achieving a growing international audience, and was gaining considerable prestige, not only on the African continent, but also on other continents. We would also like to understand, as would most of the international public, the reasons that prompted the accord for unity established last year.

[Question] Still in connection with the unity issue, the holding of the Great Magreb summit is being discussed in your region. Algeria has been pressured by Morocco to take part in that summit, with the SDAR's participation. How has this situation evolved?

[Answer] What we are attempting to create in our region is a kind of SADCC [Southern Africa Development Coordination Conference] known by the name Great Magreb. There are countries which think that the Great Magreb consists essentially of five nations, excluding the SDAR. Morocco, and possibly some other country, is willing to hold a summit to materialize this notion of the Great Magreb without our country.

We, the SDAR, Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania, who are members of this great regional group, refuse any summit that fails to take into account the real number of this group of countries, which is six, including Libya. This entire attempt to have five countries meet is reprehensible and will only complicate the problems already existing in the region. In our view, as a condition for any meeting to establish the Great Magreb, it is essentially necessary to solve the problem of the Western Sahara, through implementation of Resolution 104 of the Organization of African Unity Summit, which stipulates direct negotiations between Morocco and the POLISARIO Front. Otherwise, if they want to hold the summit, it will inevitably have to be the six, with the SDAR's participation, as an integral part of the Great Magreb and as a sovereign, independent country, recognized by all the other members of this group of nations. What is at stake is the formation of our regional organization, our SADCC, so to speak.

[Question] Does this mean that there have been no steps in that direction?

[Answer] It is impossible; there can be no steps, no type of initiative that is not in the context of the two options which we already know, either the SDAR's participation, recognized by the member nations, or the solution to the Western Sahara problem through implementation of Resolution 104. And when we speak about the SDAR's participation, we mean the SDAR's recognition by Morocco, and departure of the troops and of the Moroccan administration from the SDAR's territories.

[Question] Last year, the SDAR's diplomatic battle was particularly important, essentially regarding the confirmation of this country's participation in the

Organization of African Unity as a full-fledged member. I would like to know your current view, Mr Ambassador, on the solidarity of the other peoples with the Saharan people, and the extent to which that solidarity has contributed to the progress that your country has made.

[Answer] Solidarity is, we might say, one of the major aspects of the liberation struggles of any people bearing arms to fight for their independence and sovereignty. In my opinion, it constitutes half of the effort in a people's struggle. The area that is incumbent only on the people in question is armed struggle on the spot. As we see it, no one can fight or replace the people who must fight to win their independence. But those people are entitled to the solidarity of other peoples. In our case, we feel that solidarity not only on our own continent, but on other continents as well.

This solidarity has different forms. There is material, political and diplomatic solidarity. Every people, every state and every party expresses its solidarity to the extent of its potential. We think that all those with solidarity toward the cause of the Saharan people are acting in accordance with their real potential. Those in a position to provide us with material assistance have done so; those in a position to grant us political and diplomatic aid have done so; those in a position to render us moral assistance, have done so. Our people sense that solidarity, particularly on our continent.

[Question] After the victory represented for the SDAR by the guarantee of the seat to which it is entitled in the Organization of African Unity, what other steps have there been in the diplomatic offensive outside the African continent?

[Answer] The SDAR's definitive, irreversible admission to the Organization of African Unity has had as a major consequence the solution to the problems created by the enemy to destroy African unity. Our continental organization returned to its cohesion, to unity; it resumed the discussion of the serious economic problems affecting our continent. Hence, one of the consequences of our admission, not only for the SDAR but also for our entire continent, has been the return of the Organization of African Unity to its normal activity, in its true dimensions.

Insofar as the SDAR is concerned, the first reaction was its recognition by Yugoslavia, a European country which is one of the bulwarks of the non-aligned movement; and, therefore, a consistent country. Then came the SDAR's recognition by Colombia, bringing the number of Latin American countries recognizing the SDAR to 14.

Moreover, the statement made quite recently by the Brazilian minister of foreign affairs, in which he announced Brazil's recognition of the POLISARIO Front as the legitimate representative of the Saharan people, is important.

We can claim that there are good prospects on the politico-diplomatic level which are a result, first of our struggle on the spot, and second, of our admission to our continental organization, the OAU.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, how is the military situation evolving inside the SDAR's territory, and what are the prospects on your side in this respect?

[Answer] I shall take a brief look back, first regarding the development of our army of national liberation.

When the armed struggle started on 20 May 1973, as I noted at the beginning, our army was a very small group of comrades with almost no types of weapons, with the exception of old shotguns, and without ammunition. With the first attack on the military post, which marked the beginning of the armed struggle, some military ordnance was seized, as well as camels which, at the time, were the only means of transportation for the ammunition and supplies of the army. Later, the action was taken.

We went on to seize not only camels and ammunition, but also weapons of larger calibers and some Spanish Army vehicles.

We began using vehicles taken from the enemy to replace the camels, which enabled us to take the military action to a broader radius of operations. With the mobilization of the POLISARIO Front, along with the masses, there was an influx of combatants to the army shortly thereafter.

With the rise in the number of combatants, the attack operations were heightened also and, as a result, the amount of ordnance seized increased. This gradual but steady progress made it possible, in 2 and a half years, for the enemy's withdrawal from most of the SDAR's territory to occur (...)

It was at this time also that assistance started coming from some nations in our region, thus reinforcing our capacity for action. In 1975, when the invading Moroccan troops arrived, our army was not yet really a regular army, but we continued our struggle.

We continued to reinforce and attach priority to combat, a priority for the army. Increasingly intensive action continued to take place, and the seizure of increasingly more sophisticated ordnance continued; and we managed to organize our army. We can now say, 12 years after its creation, that we have an organized, properly armed and trained army, with a combat capacity proven on the spot, which proved capable of breaking the Moroccan-Mauritanian alliance, and of forcing the Spanish colonialists to leave Sahara. As a result of this, even the Moroccan troops are living in their trenches and behind the walls which they have built and which they call defense walls, but which we, rightfully, call walls of shame.

Since the aggression began, Morocco's military strategy has been as follows: attempting to occupy all of the SDAR's territory militarily. Nevertheless, our army's constant, violent action has forced the invader to withdraw to one section of the country. And it has been a constant falling back, until they have reached the towns of Laun, Smara, Boucraa and Dakhla, which they currently occupy.

Later, they created the mobile, independent regiments. There were three contingents each consisting of 7,000 men, specifically in Ouhoud, Zalaka and Badr.

We defeated the Ouhoud contingent in the battle of Ouarkziz, in March 1981.

In that battle, we killed 2,500 Moroccan soldiers and took 350 prisoners, in addition to 50 tanks in new condition, most of which were manufactured in South Africa.

After the Ouarkziz operations, on 13 March 1981, Morocco ended the strategy of the independent regiments.

Following the battle of Guelta-Zemour, on 13 October 1981, in which the Moroccans lost four battalions and six combat planes, the new strategy emerged, namely, the walls strategy; a strategy of French origin and American instigation. It was the French who advised the Moroccans to occupy the capital and the phosphate mines, and to build the defense wall, based upon the line that had been devised by the French during World War II, along the German border. That line was not effective on that occasion, just as it is not so in Western Sahara. It is American because the defense equipment, primarily the radar, is American.

Morocco began implementing the new strategy, surrounding part of the country which it occupies with walls 4 meters high, with barbed wire and detection radar. But on 13 October of last year, when we launched our "Great Magreb" offensive, we proved the vulnerability of the walls. We crossed over the walls on more than one occasion, proving that this was a limited cultural strategy that by no means represents a definitive solution to the problem of Western Sahara. We proved that Morocco could build walls all over the SDAR's territory, but that this would by no means represent an obstacle to the advancement of the Western Saharan army combatants.

The walls are there. They will remain as a historic legacy left in Western Sahara by the king of Morocco after his expansionist colonial adventure, just as palaces, gardens and works of art have been left behind in other countries of the world.

Insofar as the prospects are concerned, based upon this situation of the walls, we observe that there is no alternative left for Morocco to solve the problem except a return to reason and international legality, abiding by the will of the international community represented by Resolution 104 of the 19th Summit of the Organization of African Unity and Resolution 3940 of the United Nations, which stipulate a peaceful solution through direct negotiations and a ceasefire, to create the conditions necessary for solving the Western Sahara problem. The Moroccans know, and have declared through their army's chief of staff, that it is impossible for them to surmount the situation militarily; and more than one country, including the United States, has already claimed that a military solution in Western Sahara is impossible. However, when an enemy says that a military solution is impossible, it is because it is impossible for itself, but not for us. The enemy talks about the military impossibility for itself because it is incapable of solving the problem militarily.

The SDAR has opted for peaceful means, and it wants a negotiated solution, including implementation of Resolution 104 of the Organization of African Unity. The SDAR is still striving actively in search of more support and recognition, not only in our continental area, but on other continents as well.

As for Morocco's ostensible silence, it is only ostensible. They are very much concerned over the situation. They have a chaotic internal situation. They have a foreign debt of \$15 billion, with 2 million unemployed and two thirds of the population in absolute poverty, based upon the standard that the United Nations has established in that respect. All of this is the result of the war, on which Morocco is spending \$3 million per day, without any military activity. It is a country in a state of bankruptcy.

The Moroccans contacted us on 27 January, in Lisbon. They sent a delegation headed by the minister of interior, but the SDAR thinks that such contacts should be made publicly, and not secretly. Morocco has no alternative other than to negotiate with the POLISARIO Front, directly and publicly.

We are ready for negotiations with Morocco at any time, to solve the problem peacefully. But, until that course of action arrives, we shall continue to intensify our action against the Moroccan army of occupation.

[Question] Mr Ambassador, what is your view of the recent events on our continent, particularly in the region of Southern Africa?

[Answer] The politico-economic situation on our continent is extremely disturbing. It is a situation with many causes, ranging from natural disasters to banditry and drought. It has even been caused by situations imposed by capable countries with means for supporting the countries on the African continent. Our continent has a large foreign debt. This worsening of the situation prompted the heads of state at the latest OAU summit meeting to decide to devote the organization's next summit primarily to problems of an economic nature, in an attempt to restart the Lagos Plan of Action, which constitutes part of the effort that can extricate the continent from the situation marked by famine, nakedness and drought.

As for Southern Africa, I think that it has been more than proven to the international community that the destabilization factor here, the factor creating problems, is the "apartheid" regime. So long as this regime persists, there can be no stability. It is the Pretoria regime that is colonizing Namibia. It is the Pretoria regime that is training, financing and arming the armed bandits. It is the "apartheid" regime that is infiltrating Mozambique and Angola with bandits. It is the Pretoria regime that is creating problems for Zimbabwe, Lesotho and Botswana. We think that so long as this factor of destabilization continues, there can be no lasting peace in this section of our continent.

With regard to the peaceful attempts of countries such as Mozambique to establish peace, we observe Mozambique's good will in the signing of the

N'Komati Accord; but we also observe that South Africa has not complied with that accord. South Africa is still supporting the armed bandits; it is still violating the N'Komati Accord, despite the good will and good intentions shown by the People's Republic of Mozambique.

This prompts us to say that the nature of the "apartheid" regime is the cause of the problems in Southern Africa. On this basis, we think that action should be taken, not only in the region of Southern Africa, and the African continent, but also on a worldwide level, aimed at ending the "apartheid" regime, putting an end to the activities of the armed bandits, both in Mozambique and Angola. The international community must intensify its support for the liberation movements in Southern Africa and its condemnation of the "apartheid" regime.

Before concluding, I would like to acclaim the solidarity that we have always received from the Mozambican people and their vanguard, the FRELIMO Party, which has been expressed since the beginning of our armed struggle. Mozambique was among the first countries to recognize the SDAR, and is one of the countries with which we have the best friendly relations. On this occasion, I wish to express appreciation and my wishes for prosperity and progress to the Mozambican people, whom we consider a part of our own people.

2909

CSO: 3442/301

ISRAEL

EXAMINATION OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE WARNING CAPABILITY

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17, 18 Apr 85

[Articles by Reuven Pedahzur: "Those Responsible for the National Intelligence Decision" and "Possibility of Improvement"]

[17 Apr 85 p 7]

[Text] The warning is the crowning achievement of intelligence activity and also its primary touchstone. The Agranat Commission concluded that the Military Intelligence Branch [MIB] failed in 1973 because it had not provided the requisite warning. Therefore, the commission decided, the MIB was largely responsible for the unexpected successes of Egypt and Syria in the first days of the war. The Agranat Commission recommended that the responsibility for providing the warning be divided up among several entities and that action be taken to avoid a situation in which the MIB would be the only intelligence entity providing the national intelligence estimate.

During Yitzhaq Rabin's term of office as prime minister, the government decided, after discussing the Agranat Commission's recommendations, to leave intact the situation that prevailed before 1973. As such, the MIB has remained the "central and only intelligence agency for providing a warning of war."

The fundamental question on the mind of many in the intelligence community is: Has the intelligence system's ability to provide a warning of the enemy's intention to launch a war improved since 1973? The MIB is confronted with the problem of the "narrow margins." On the Syrian front the Syrian army's shift from a defensive deployment to an offensive deployment can be very rapid. The IDF's dependence on the reserves places extremely significant importance on the intelligence warning that is likely to determine success or defeat in the war. Senior officials in the intelligence community estimate the prospects of Israel's being surprised again strategically, mainly from the Syrian direction, at 50 percent. The major effort must be invested, therefore, in reducing the relatively high probability of surprise.

Indicators

The warning is based on a series of predetermined "indicators." These "indicators" are the actions that the enemy cannot avoid taking during his preparations for launching a war. However, in addition to the reception of these

indicators, the capability of the intelligence system to provide a warning is based on their evaluation. An inaccurate evaluation of the "indicators" is likely to cause erroneous conclusions, the result of which would be not providing a warning as occurred in October 1973. Assuming that the MIB has achieved a rather high collection capability, what remains to be tested is its ability to screen the information and to develop the accurate estimate in time. Virtually the only area in which there is some room for maneuver that permits changes is the organizational one. Essentially, the MIB is divided into two areas, collection and analysis. The main resources are invested in collection, both in terms of financial and manpower resources. In contrast, the Analysis Department in the MIB is relatively small. The information collected is forwarded to the Analysis Department where it is processed and the "intelligence estimate" is "produced." The group of "estimators," on whose word the warning decision-makers are dependent, consists of 10 to 20 senior officers of the Analysis Department.

In commenting on the MIB Analysis Department's "production", Yitzhaq Rabin, then an opposition member of the Knesset and today the minister of defense, said in December 1982: "The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee should discuss the MIB estimates which in the last 20 years have been erroneous."

Dr Uzi Arad, a senior analyst in the intelligence system, maintains that "in order to improve the quality of the estimates, the quality of the estimators must be improved. This can be done by improvement in locating and recruiting them, formal training, provision of experience, developing the functional skills that are required in the projected intelligence needs, and maintenance of orderly work methods." In his opinion, "We have not yet exhausted the unexploited potential in these areas."

Brig Gen Yoel Ben-Porat, one of the senior officers in the MIB, has stated (MA'ARAKHOT, October 1983) that "In most of the years of the MIB's existence only some of the estimators have been reliable both in their qualifications and their qualities. Virtually all of the MIB's failures have stemmed from a misunderstanding of information or an estimate that is not based on, ignores, or contradicts information." Ben-Porat notes that since the departure of Maj Gen Yehoshafat Harkavi, there has not been anyone in charge of either the intelligence or the estimate who has been educated about the Arabs, Islam, and Arabic.

No Command of Arabic

In order to explain the seriousness of the problem, it is noteworthy that a significant number of the senior officers in the MIB today, including those who are involved in estimates, have no command at all of Arabic. The MIB does not even have one training course in analysis beyond the courses for the lower-ranking officers.

One of the serious problems affecting the MIB is the absence of the "debriefing tradition." In contrast to the air force in which the debriefing is an integral element of current operations, the MIB has systematically avoided

reexamination of previous decisions and estimates. In the absence of debriefings, it must be assumed that the conclusions drawn by the MIB are also incomplete. In his book "Hahafta'ah Habasisit" [The Basic Surprise], Dr Tzvi Lanir claims that "the lesson of the distortion of the warning concept in the MIB and its being a factor in the Yom Kippur surprise has not been learned." Brig Gen Ben-Porat states that the MIB "still has not learned the true, complete, and comprehensive lessons of the warning failure in 1973. This is because the MIB of 1974 refused to analyze the Yom Kippur failure." With his assumption of the position of chief of the MIB, Maj Gen Ehud Barak decided to reexamine the analysis in the MIB. Maj Gen Barak convened a series of meetings of the senior officers in the analysis departments in the MIB, the air force, and the navy in which analysis and ways to improve it were discussed. Aware of the deficiency in the absence of debriefings, Barak ordered a reexamination of the reasons for the failure of the MIB's estimates in October 1973 and the failure of one of the MIB's estimates in the seventies.

[18 Apr 75 p 9]

The chief of the MIB, Maj Gen Ehud Barak, was not satisfied with a series of meetings that he initiated in which intelligence analysis subjects were discussed and not even with his orders to conduct detailed debriefings on the MIB's failures in 1973 and the mid-seventies. In addition, Barak also appointed a special committee which he tasked with reexamining the organizational structure of the Analysis Department in the MIB. The establishment of the committee resulted from the assumption that the main problem in the intelligence process that leads to the estimate of the enemy's intentions is rooted in analysis. It seems that this assumption has been accepted by most of the MIB's past and present senior officers.

To head the committee, Maj Gen Barak appointed a senior officer in the reserves who has been deeply involved in the intelligence field. In addition to him, three MIB officers also served as members of the committee. About 4 months ago, the committee completed its work and submitted its recommendations to Maj Gen Barak. Among other things, the members of the committee determined that for many years no changes were made in the analytic function of the MIB. As a result of examining the Analysis Department's operating procedures, the committee recommended a number of changes.

After reviewing the professional literature on the warning and following up on various suggestions made through the years within and outside the intelligence system (Yoel Ben-Porat, MA'ARAKHOT; Dr Tzvi Lanir, "Hahafta'ah Habasisit"; Dr Uzi Arad, MA'ARAKHOT), it became evident that in the present work systems, there was no uniqueness to the warning function within the overall structure. In light of this situation, it is appropriate to recommend the establishment of a new structure in the Analysis Department dedicated to warning. This unit must be fully manned every day of the week and every hour of the day. The "warning unit" should be composed of outstanding professionals who would develop techniques of examining the reliability and accessibility of the intelligence information. This would help protect them from deception more than their associates in the Analysis

Department who are involved in current operations and are likely to be captives of a certain conception. The essential concept of the proposed unit is the separation of its personnel from the frameworks of the conception in such a way that their estimate will be made on the basis of current information. They would provide the warning on the basis of "indicators." In principle, the "warning unit" personnel would not look for the enemy's intentions but rather would try to discover if the enemy has created a technical option to launch an attack. In such a case, the unit would issue a warning of an approaching attack. In this way, the "warning point" would serve as another defense mechanism in the intelligence system.

To demonstrate the advantage of such a unit, one must go back to the warning failure of 1973. The assumption of the MIB estimators was that the Egyptians' strategic objective was the capture of Be'er Sheva and not a bridgehead over the canal. Since the intelligence information made it clear that the Egyptians did not have the military capability to capture the entire Sinai Peninsula, the conclusion was that they did not intend to launch a war even with the arrival of information pointing out "indicators" proving the Egyptians' and Syrians' creation of the technical ability to launch an attack.

This thesis (conception) that the "estimators group" in the MIB subscribed to in 1973 received support in May of that year with the accumulation of many "indicators," and the chief of the general staff ordered the mobilization of the reserves. The MIB's May estimate that was based on the aforementioned conception maintained that Egypt and Syria had no intention of launching a war. After the fact, the MIB's view proved to be justified, and this strengthened the position of its estimators and their self-confidence. An American analyst, Janice Gross-Stein, maintains that the MIB was correct in its determination that a war would not erupt but for the wrong reasons. Stein offers no explanation, however in studying the intelligence information accrued during 1973, it became evident that it was the intention of Egypt and Syria to launch a war in May, however the implementation of this intention was prevented for reasons that were not dependent on these two countries. This means that already in May the thesis of the MIB estimators was incorrect, but no one in the MIB knew this. This is how the May "victory" led to the October tragedy. The basic concept of the recommendation that is based on the professional literature maintains, therefore, that the establishment of the "warning unit" would substantially reduce the probability of surprise.

In addition to the suggestion to establish a special unit, there are possibilities for other proposals to improve the warning capability. Such proposals are based mainly on the concept of a "warning unit" but add the principle of interservice integration. One of the impediments in the area of warning, if it exists, is the absence of cooperation between the MIB and air force intelligence and naval intelligence. At times, this causes a situation in which some of the significance of the intelligence information is incomprehensible because an "indicator" or a "deviation" in the air intelligence would not always be identified as such by an MIB person. The interservice cooperation would permit the full exploitation of the potential in the warning information. The estimator in the MIB would be able to examine the warning question from an overall perspective and not only from a perspective of ground, air, or naval intelligence. All of this would be in a more constructive form than today's method of operation.

Therefore, an "interservice warning center" should be established. The optimal possibility presented by such a warning center is based on the American model. This means that it would be an entity subordinate to a service chiefs committee headed by a civilian. The purpose of placing a civilian at the head of the "warning center" is to cut it off from dependence on the military hierarchy. In this way the civilian will be able to serve in this position for many years without being bothered by the matter of advancement.

As a substitute for this possibility, it is also possible to place the "interservice warning center" in the MIB structure in which it would be directly subordinate to the chief of the MIB. In such a case, a senior officer, whose advancement would be removed from the normal process, would head the "center."

Although the implementation of these ideas does not require a significant increase in the budget or manpower and despite everyone's acknowledgement of the importance of the warning, these ideas have come up against the organizational conservatism of the MIB.

5830

CSO: 4423/44

JORDAN

MUSLIM PUBLICATION SPECULATES ON RETURN OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Kuwait AL-MUJTAMA' in Arabic 2 Apr 85 pp 34-35

[Text] News coming from the Jordanian capital of Amman in recent weeks reports that Jordan, since the foundations were laid for a return to parliamentary life at the end of 1983, has witnessed popular political activity organized in such a way as to resemble political party activity. On 25 July 1983, something calling itself the Democratic Unionist Grouping forwarded to King Husayn a note encouraging the idea of a return to parliamentary life. Dr Jamal al-Sha'ir, the head of the group, and four others, signed it.

In the by-elections for the Jordanian parliament, most of the political orientations which operated in Jordan prior to the ban on party activity emerged again.

Well-informed sources report that there are "at least five organized efforts to establish political parties. Each effort sees itself as the nucleus for the coming political parties."

This trend is becoming strong in light of the inclination to hold general elections to elect 30 delegates to parliament from the east bank in the near future.

The Green Light

Sulayman 'Arar, the Jordanian minister of the interior, previously rejected the idea of a return of parties, saying "they are not proposed; democracy is by means of parliament only." See AL-MAJALLAH magazine, number 220, 4 May 1984.

However, Arab and Western sources mentioned recently that Jordan is moving toward giving permission for the formation of parties, though in complete secrecy and slowly. The British FINANCIAL TIMES newspaper says that the Jordanian government gave the green light to political leaderships to move in this regard, and has allowed them to make the contacts necessary to form organizational structures and basic systems, and to publish political declarations preparatory to holding public meetings to establish the parties when the state announces official permission for this. Some of the sources named people in responsible and executive roles in the anticipated parties, but the number of cadres recruited is still limited.

The question which presents itself here is: Is this Jordanian trend an indication of an increase of political freedoms and participation in political decision-making?

Political Background

A direct answer to this question would be considered speculation. However, in the area of politics, its foreground, circumstances, and background, it may be said that the decision to allow the formation of parties in Jordan, though not yet announced officially, has come about within the circumstances of the trend in Jordanian politics in particular toward political settlement with the Zionist enemy and following the Jordanian-Palestinian rapprochement based on the formula of joint responsibility for the Palestinian problem.

This joint Jordanian-Palestinian step requires that the wounds resulting from the previous policy of rivalry be healed; i.e., that the trend toward granting a limited degree of political freedom, represented by the revival of parliament or by granting freedom to form political parties, comes in circumstances calling for general popular satisfaction with supporting the official inclination to settle the Palestinian problem on the principle of land in exchange for peace, as King Husayn announced officially for Jordan in the Palestine National Council which met in Amman this past September.

Indicators

The conclusions carry weight in light of the following indicators:

When Sulayman 'Arar, the Jordanian minister of the interior, denied that the idea of a return of parties is proposed, he tied this in with the connection of the previous parties linked to outside agencies and to the circumstances which resulted from creation of the state of the Zionist entity.

If the aforementioned note of Dr Jamal Al-Sha'ir, the signatories made clear that among the most important reasons for their call for a return to parliamentary life is that it "will put an end to the claims of those groups which received support and encouragement from abroad, and it will not be easy for any group or side to put pressure on Jordan and its government." The note does not neglect mention of the law on elections, about which it says "it will limit the electoral districts in a way that will make for balanced representation among the different popular groups."

That is, the note allays the fears of the government which made it suspend the system of parties.

The decision to allow establishment of parties will continue through to official announcement depending on personal agreement by the king, according to the FINANCIAL TIMES, who, according to the newspaper, "has made clear that he wants to consider political change, but does not want a repetition of the strikes of the fifties." He wants these changes to continue within view and according to calculations. Fairness requires that we point out that Jordan means to increase freedoms in that it aims to consolidate an internal front against Jewish ambitions in the east of the Jordan, which Zionist documents indicate as the next goal.

It is important to note in this regard that the personalities who have become prominent recently and who have announced their intentions to form a political party are considered loyal elements, on the one hand, and are respected by the Rotary and Lions clubs in Amman! Moreover, some of the leaders still participate in the councils of government, such as Sulayman 'Arar, the minister of the interior, who is establishing the Arab Constitutional Party; hence the sensitivity and secrecy about the movements and contacts.

Western Suggestion

In any case, no observer may neglect to mention that the trend of Arab governments to grant a very limited degree of democracy is a general phenomenon, the basic features of which began in the early eighties, particularly in those states which had a system of government which could be described as relatively stable, and which were working actively and with determination to reach settlement of the Palestinian problem, such as the Egyptian regime.

It behooves the observer, thus, to mention that grabbing hold of the edge of democracy by some Arab states was a Western suggestion, based on data of the Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

Moreover, it has not escaped notice that the American president, Reagan, and other American officials, prefer to deal with an Arab official who enjoys popular support, giving his decision legitimacy in implementation. If this was the idea of democracy in the eighties, and if this was the edge of political freedom, the question now is: Why do popular political forces struggle over it, and why does the Islamic movement participate in it?

It is necessary to mention here the principled positions of the Islamic movement, which are based on freedom for the Call, for educational activity and for expression of opinion and position. Consequently, the edge of freedom is small or large, depending on the political demands of the Islamic movement and of parties, because the edge of freedom enriches political life and works to spread mass consciousness. It is considered a political game, which serves whoever plays it well.

The Opinion of the Islamic Movement

Yusuf al-Azam, a member of the Jordanian parliament and an outstanding member of the Muslim Brotherhood, says about parliament that "it is a pulpit from which to announce the Call and to spread the thought, laws and system of Islam, and to work for their implementation." The return of parties is called for by Eng Layth Shabilat, another Islamic member of the parliament, who is quoted in the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' as saying: "Perhaps the time has come for the existence of a constructive opposition system derived from the constitution and operating according to it, creating a legal outlet for the hopes of the citizens who want to serve their country on the basis of the constitution."

Moreover, as we said in a previous issue, the stage of suppression and subjugation which distinguished the decades of the sixties and seventies, caused the various political forces to cling to the edge of freedom given in the eighties.

But the situation is not a product of the present political circumstances only, but also of economic, cultural and social elements, and therefore it is complicated, even if the political factor is the most important, as is the case in most of the Arab states and states of the Third World.

Based on what has been presented, the Islamic movement represented in Jordan by the Muslim Brotherhood group, welcomed, in the voice of more than one of its officials, permission to form parties just as it was welcomed by the other political forces.

A fair observer can only call for encouragement of the phenomenon of democratization of parliamentary life and extension of political freedoms, because these are the certain guarantee of growth of consciousness and development in various areas, as freedom forms a basis for a comprehensive renaissance, balance and stability. ✓

12780

CSO: 4404/309

JORDAN

BRIEFS

TRADE WITH TURKEY--Turkey has agreed to purchase 500,000 tons of Jordanian phosphate during 1985. The value of the transaction is about \$18 million. This agreement might be renewed for 1986. This agreement is evidence of the excellent relations between the two countries, and of Turkey's desire for, at the least, improvement of the successful commercial exchange between them. It should be mentioned that Jordanian imports from Turkey increased over the past 5 years, from a value of \$19 million in 1978 to a value of \$110 million in 1983. Jordan ranked 24th among countries importing goods from Turkey in 1978 and ranked 14th in 1983. In return, Jordan exports to Turkey mostly phosphate and leather, the value of which increased from \$9 million in 1978 to a value of \$11 million in 1983. The two sides are striving to increase the quantity and variety of exports between them as much as possible. Thus Turkish contractors are increasing activities in Jordan, where six contracting companies are now operating in the Jordanian market. [Text] [Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 30 Mar 85 pp 37,38] 12780

FRENCH LOAN--France has agreed to grant Jordan a loan of 660 million French francs (the equivalent of \$64 million). This is to support various development projects, including educational and communications projects. Agreement was reached this past 5 March on the broad outlines. No other details of the loan were mentioned. It must be mentioned that France granted a loan to Jordan of 600 million French francs (the equivalent of \$58 million) in 1981. The loan was used at that time for a contract with the CIT-Acatel company to extend the telephone system in the north of the country. [Text] [Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 30 Mar 85 p 38] 12780

MEASURES TO IMPROVE ECONOMY--AL-HAWADITH has learned that the Jordanian government has asked the Arab Bank to release \$70 million into the local market to shake the economic inertia from which the Jordanian economy is suffering. This is one of many steps which the new government has taken to get out of the economic predicament. [Text] [London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 26 Apr 85 p 61] 12780

KUWAIT EXTENDS LOAN--Amman (OPECNA)--The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development has extended about \$311 million in loans to Jordan for more than 20 development projects, including water, electricity and agricultural schemes. Faysal Al-Khalid, director general of the fund, said following discussions with Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i that \$52.47 million went to al-Husayn thermal power station, an electricity project in Al-Zarqa' area, and \$45.91 million to King Talal dam scheme. He added that the fund would provide a \$22.95 million loan to co-finance the development of Al-Zarqa' River basin. [Text] [Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 6-7 Jun 85 p 1 JN]

LEBANON

BRIEFS

WAR TOLL LISTED--In a General Lebanese Labor Federation study on the economic and social consequences of the Lebanese war, it was stated that this war has resulted in a socioeconomic breakdown in various sectors, as embodied in the following indices: First, in the agricultural sector: destruction of installations and equipment at a level of 40 percent; a 30 percent decline in production in 1983-84; an 80 percent decline in exports in 1983. Second, in the industrial sector: destruction of installations and equipment at a level of 40 percent; the suspension of production at a level of 60 percent in the year 1983-84; a 40 percent decline in exports in the year 1983-84. Third, the tourist sector: destruction of installations and equipment at a level of 80 percent; the total lack of activity with the outer world. Fourth, the service sector: the suspension of its role because of the erratic nature of domestic communications. Fifth, the public sector: destruction of installations and equipment valued at 1 billion Lebanese pounds, in addition to a constant drop in the government's revenues and the impossibility of collecting public revenues, which has led to a constant increase in domestic debt, to the point where it came to 30 billion pounds at the end of 1984. The war has also led to an aggravation in the wave of inflation, erratic production, a drop in per capita income, the aggravation of unemployment and an increase in the cost of living. [Text] [London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 6 Apr 85 p 31]

CSO: 4404/346

PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

'ARAFAT GIVES VIEWS ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Khartoum AL-AYYAM in Arabic 10 May 85 p 3

[Interview with Yasir 'Arafat, Leader of Palestine Liberation Organization: "The Revolution in the Sudan Has Refuted All Predictions, Has Upset All Calculations and Scales and Has Brought in the Era of Revolutions and Peoples"]

[Text] We advanced toward him with hurried steps.

In the elegant reception hall of the hotel, the eyes of the young Palestinians did not settle in a specific direction, but seemed filled with apprehension and wariness, and policemen were spread about in different areas of the elegant reception hall. The clock was pointing to 2200 hours in the evening, the time scheduled for the holding of the interview. After 2200 hours, it hurried on to 2300 hours and no one came from upstairs who might permit us to go up!

Because of the delay in the meeting, and for many reasons, we found it better to go through the pleasant wait. Tuesday morning was on the verge of coming into being when one of them appeared, his features assuming the form of Palestine. He brought us up to the 11th floor of the Qasr al-Sadaqah Hotel which had been allocated to the overthrown tyrant.

Abu 'Ammar was Abu 'Ammar, the venerable figure of the Palestinian revolution, in whose limbs the blood of life, revolution and anger flows hot and torrential with the morning of every new day. The smile is the same one which has stored up millions of charges of noble anger, grief, dynamite, blood, martyrdom and the splendor of victory.

It was him, him, Abu 'Ammar. He had not changed. We ourselves had changed the situation we were in, and we came to him as an [illegible] extension of the Palestinian revolution which was profoundly interacting with the heartland of the inflamed black continent.

The conversation proceeded.

When we first came upon Abu 'Ammar we addressed him with a question concerning the issue of the shipment of Falasha Jews to Israel, the involvement of

the dictator Numayri's regime in that and its effects on the course of the Palestinian struggle. We also asked about the Palestinian organizations' silence concerning this major conspiracy when it was at its peak.

Abu 'Ammar said that the goal in sending on the Falasha was to bring about an Israeli penetration of Africa and to make Israel seem as if it contained Africans, in addition to using the Falasha as Israeli soldiers.

Abu 'Ammar paused here a moment.

He then went on to say that there was a religious conflict over the Falasha who in the view of religious law were not considered complete Jews.

He continued, "Their shipment was a plan in the context of the new American-Israeli attack on the organization and in the long run the colonialist scheme will bring them back to Africa once again."

Concerning the organization's silence, Abu 'Ammar said, "We issued a statement during the peak of the conspiracy and said that it was a slap in the face. These are the people of the Sudan, these beloved, friendly people who hold special esteem."

Abu 'Ammar said, "We are not among those who beat drums when danger comes from the direction of a people whom we love and who love us. Therefore, this conspiracy was handled with this apparent calm, but deep down we were boiling because as I said it was a slap in the face."

The conversation continued. We said,

"In the framework of the relationship which exists now between Cairo and Tel Aviv, it seems very difficult in many people's view just to imagine a relationship between the Palestine Organization and Cairo. However, actual conditions show that one exists. How would you explain that to us?"

[He said] "The isolation of Egypt from its Arab nation is an American-Israeli conspiracy against the Arab nation. This is a fact, and not something that has sprung from my own mind. I can repeat what the memoirs of Musa Sharif and Ben Gurion dealt with, what Dr Karamji wrote in the History of the Islamic Platform, and the contents of the documents of the late President Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir.

"It was, and will continue to be, an Israeli-American conspiracy to remove Egypt from the arena of the struggle, and unfortunately the conspiracy was crowned with success through Camp David. There is another chapter in the conspiracy against the Arab nation -- the fragmentation of the Arab nations into little factional states, so that it will be easy to take them over. What is going on now in Lebanon, the southern Sudan and other places in the Arab countries is a type of 'Balkanization' and factional fragmentation which the American-Israeli conspiracy referred to. Again, unfortunately, some Arab parties have become implicated in this conspiracy, indeed have taken part in it!

"Therefore I consider that having Egypt come back in order to assume its natural leadership role in the body of the Arab nation is of necessity another struggle which we are now waging against the Zionist imperialist scheme!

"It is a conspiracy, indeed! It is a scheme, indeed! However, I am not one of those people who throws down arms and surrenders to conspiracy easily. If I had surrendered easily, you would not see me wearing khaki. I would have gone back to being an engineer. By the way, I was a successful engineer. Though the first military operation I carried out was to blow up a water tank, a funny thing is that I did my master's thesis on that tank!"

'Arafat fell silent a little. His eyes gleamed with a brief light, and he said, "Having Egypt return to its role of leadership of the Arab nation is a 'struggle.' I and the Egyptian people together are now waging this struggle. We will not surrender to the Israeli enemy and vile American influence. Egypt is not a grain of sand so that we can say it does not matter. Let it be. In order for us to get Jerusalem back, Egypt's presence is necessary. I am talking now without auctioneering. For the sake of Jerusalem and for the sake of Palestine, we must struggle and struggle for the sake of having Egypt return. President Mubarak without a doubt is not al-Sadat. The days of the Arab disgrace, the days of the dual blockade, the Israeli blockade by sea and the blockade of Tripoli by land by some Arabs, Mubarak, who certainly is not al-Sadat, protected the Palestinian forces with the participation of the French when they were out in the sea, in the midst of Sharon's repeated threats!

"I remember Mubarak full well and also remember the Arab disgrace. I remember better, now that there are many problems between Egypt and Israel. There is the problem of the Israeli ambassador, the problems of the 'Tabas,' the problem of normalization and so on and so forth. I consider that we must entertain respect for the Egyptian people where housewives have refused in time of scarcity to feed their children with the Israeli goods with which the Egyptian markets have become congested!"

We said, "In the context of the Jordanian-Palestinian-Egyptian axis --"

Abu 'Arafat interrupted,

"There is no axis, and the Palestinian revolution will not enter into an axis or axes. We in the Palestinian revolution have 'circles' -- the Arab circle, the African circle, the circle of nonalignment, the circle of friends and the Islamic circle! We in the Palestinian revolution reject policies of axes."

We asked, "Is there then a sort of Jordanian-Palestinian-Egyptian movement?"

Abu 'Arafat said,

"There is no movement basically of this description; there is a kind of ambiguity, and the reason for this ambiguity is that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement came directly after the initiative which President Mubarak

launched. We in the Palestinian revolution in spite of our appreciation for these Egyptian efforts have said, explicitly, that we cannot give agreement to this initiative."

[Question] Why not?

[Answer] Because Mubarak's initiative states that direct Palestinian-Israeli-American-Jordanian-Egyptian talks should take place, and in the course of the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement we agreed that any resolution of the cause must take place through an international conference attended by the five members of the Security Council with the Palestine Liberation Organization and with the parties concerned, on an equal footing.

A sort of ambiguity or "linkage" has occurred which can be attributed to the special relationship between the Palestine Organization and Egypt on the one hand, the current relations between Egypt and Jordan on another hand, and those between the organization and Jordan on the third hand. A "linkage" or "mixup" has occurred between the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and the Arab initiative, but there is no connection between the two. I would like that to be clear. We greatly respect the views of our brothers in Egypt but at the same time we have more respect for the resolutions of our national councils and will continue to defend them to the death. We in the Palestinian revolution, since it took off, have had, and will continue to have, two options: a military option, which we have not relinquished and will not relinquish, and a political option. Therefore I said at the United Nations in 1974 before the General Assembly, "I have come to you bearing an olive branch in one hand and a rifle in the other. We are not fighting for the sake of war but we are fighting for the sake of a political goal." We are now fighting for the sake of a political goal, and the struggle is continuing on all levels.

[Question] It might be appropriate, here, for us to ask about your combat arrangements after leaving Lebanon. Will your fighting men who were uprooted have a return to the arena of the struggle?

[Answer] Of course, certainly. Our forces basically never were in a single place. This is a resolution from the Arab League. It is true that we had large numbers of fighting men in Lebanon, and this can be attributed to the ramifications, repercussions and complications of the war. After the departure from Beirut, we now have 10 military bases which are now carrying out revolutionary action. Therefore, sometimes the number of fighting men increases in a given place and at other times it declines, in order to increase in other places.

We asked, "The Soviet role seems to assume a high degree of importance in escalating the Arab struggle for the sake of the Palestine cause, but Arab 'reaction' is still playing a part in keeping this role at bay."

Abu 'Arafat said, "It is not just 'reaction' that is playing this sort of role. Those people who claim to be progressive are also more concerned to keep the Soviet role at bay. The Soviet role is very important and therefore we in the Palestine Organization always say that the resolution to the cause

must come through an international conference in which the member countries of the Security Council, foremost among them the Soviet Union, will take part, alongside the parties concerned."

[Question] It is being stated here and there that you in the Palestine Organization turn very much toward brothers who support you "materially," even though some of these are considered a "fifth column" for America in the region.

[Answer] Do you mean the Arab oil countries? There are Arab oil countries which have no relationship to America. That is a kind of foolishness.

What we find fault with our brothers over is what is 'right.' We acquire these rights from our Arab nation, proceeding from the resolutions of the Arab nation. I ask the proponents of revolution and progressivism in the Arab nation why they have not committed themselves to the resolutions of the Arab League and the points the Arab summit conferences have endorsed. Why haven't they committed themselves to making the payments? Why are they evading them? We pay to our martyrs and the martyrs of the Palestinian revolution \$4.7 million a month and 400 million to the families of martyrs alone, and every day new martyrs are falling, and the river of blood on the usurped territory is being replenished.

Dealing with America? That is a form of folly. Show us a single country that does not have relations with America. One day a revolutionary stood up and said, "Why is America fighting me? I am providing one of its companies with \$23 billion for the great river project." That is a form of folly. Then if that foolish talk is correct, why has this American position regarding the Palestine Liberation Organization existed up to now? Up to last month, America continued to say "no" to the Liberation Organization. Murphy went inside the occupied territories to choose "polite" Palestinians who would go along with him with respect to the plan. All the Palestinians inside the territories told Murphy, "No, we are sorry, our sole legitimate representative is the Palestine Liberation Organization." Though the organization has been "dealing" with America, America so far does not want to recognize the organization. Why Kissinger's three nos so far -- no to the Palestine Liberation Organization, no to the Palestinian state and no to the international conference? I, 'Arafat, am a living witness to many crimes. I have many documents in my possession. The Arab nation must know what has happened and what will happen. Reagan still keeps a picture of Abu 'Ammar leaving Beirut beside his bed. He admits that one of his most conspicuous glories was to strike out at the Palestine Liberation Organization. I am still the living witness.

[Question] Let us ask about setting the Palestinian house in order, about the liquidation of disputes between the subjects of Syria and the partisans of Abu 'Ammar.

Are you happy that they should be called the subjects of Syria and the subjects of Abu 'Ammar?

Could one put the subjects of Arab intelligence services on any scales next to any Palestinian child?

[Answer] We are just like the Sudanese, full of sensitivity. Poor, but our dignity is above everything. The Palestinians, all the Palestinians, are just like the Sudanese. Do you see what the dignity of the Sudanese is like? We are not bought with money and we will not be afraid and will not be threatened. Our independent national Palestinian decisionmaking is the most important thing.

What we ourselves possess in the Palestinian revolution no Arab leader possesses, nor does any Arab or non-Arab intelligence agency possess it. Therefore, we will not allow Trojan horses to break into the Palestinian citadel.

[Question] What do you think has become of the rejection front?

And then, the salvation front -- what has come of that?

Finally, the village leagues Israel created -- what has come of them?

[Answer] Nothing, nothing. Our Palestinian people reject tutelage and reject cooptation. Our Palestinian blood is not for sale. Rid us of the slave markets, rid us of the slave markets. Everything, everything, can be bought with money except nations and dignity.

[Question] Perhaps the question is still open as far as the Palestinian disputes between certain Palestinian organizations, to be accurate, is concerned.

[Answer] There is a difference between Palestinian unity and these organizations. The Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories were not united when they came to this era specifically. It is enough that the Palestinian leaders in the territories, under the worst types of torture, terror and guillotine ropes, told Murphy, "no, no." Yes, yes to the Palestine Liberation Organization. It is enough that the Palestinian camps in Lebanon said yes to the Liberation Organization. It is enough that the Palestinian camps inside Damascus said yes to the Liberation Organization and they suffered 47 casualties in a demonstration in the form of persons killed and wounded. Therefore, there are many issues in the Palestinian house which seem to some people not to be comprehensible. There is a mixup between Palestinian national unity which is now stronger than it has been at any time in the past and the disputes which ordinarily occur between Palestinian organizations from time to time. These disputes have existed, will remain and will not come to an end during the course of the revolution. However, in spite of that, the Palestinian house remains strong and homogeneous. The disputes between organizations is talk about the "decor" of the homogeneous home, the Palestinian home. It is true that if that house was not strong and firmly built, it would not have been able to have gone on for 21 years fighting the spirits of these satans, from America to international Zionism and the people who talk Arabic and talk Hebrew.

[Question] Some people consider that the agreement with Jordan took place in the framework of the philosophy of an Arab Camp David. What is your comment?

[Answer] This sort of view is to be rejected. The Jordanian-Palestinian agreement was decreed by Palestine national congresses (twice).

It was the resolution of the Palestinian national council in Algiers, unanimously, in the presence of what are called Arab Trojan horses. In addition, there was the resolution of the Amman conference, also by unanimity. Moreover, all the Arab summit resolutions endorse Jordanian-Palestinian relations.

Then why should unity between Syria and Jordan be permitted, or be permitted for 5 years, while the Palestinian-Jordanian union should now continue not to be permitted?

Why should permission exist for union between Egypt and the Sudan but not for union between Jordan and Palestine?

Why should permission exist for union between Morocco and Libya but union between Palestine and Jordan should not be permitted?

[Question] What is made unlawful for the nightingales on branches should be permissible for birds of all kinds.

[Answer] Why should some people be insisting, up to now, that the Palestinian cause should remain "a card" until the Lebanese "card" is put in the pocket of the Jordanian card, in the pocket of the Palestinian card, in the pocket of the Soviet card, in the back pocket — until all these cards go before the American master's table and are all thrown away? That is a calamity.

Will all the Palestinian blood which has flowed warm, and continues to flow warm, become a card, and the sanctity of the land become a card? By God, it is correct, "Didn't they become embarrassed and die?"

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SAUDI ARABIA

GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF PRESS CRITICIZED

Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 1 Jun 85 p 28

[Text]



CSO: 4404/367

SYRIA

SENSITIVITY TO EVENTS IN NEIGHBORING STATES EXPLORED

Beirut AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WAL-DUWALI in Arabic 1-7 Apr 85 pp 26, 27

[Article by Wadi' al-Hilu: "The Syrian Position on Southern Lebanon: A Syrian-Iraqi Union and a Guarantee of Lebanon's Unity, Sovereignty and Independence"]

[Text] A person investigating Syria's irritation over the events going on in Lebanon will return disappointed from Damascus. The meetings the Syrian vice president 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam holds with Lebanese parties and key figures confirm the need to continue the political efforts aimed at closing up the Lebanese file, and they also confirm the lack of indulgence in forbidding anything which will have the effect of suspending the process of Lebanese domestic national reconciliation. The Syrian forces which are overseeing the operations of the withdrawal of the Israeli army from Lebanon to a large degree resemble the Syrian oversight process over the ongoing domestic political settlement process in Lebanon. Syria knows that Israel has planted mines in more than one area and that the refrain on the Israeli flute is not an isolated one. What is required is that this refrain be totally stilled in Lebanon, so that matters will be set right and normal life will be restored to Lebanon, though there is a Syrian acknowledgment that obstacles might arise and that mines have been planted to obstruct the domestic settlement process.

However, the presence of obstacles and mines is one thing and deriving enjoyment from them is something else. Damascus insists on supporting the legitimate authorities in reasserting the authority of the government on every square inch of Lebanese territory. It is the official Lebanese minesweeper which will take charge of eliminating the obstacles and defusing the mines, with the Syrian forces supporting it in this, and not the other way around. President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus stressed the most recent of the fixed elements in Lebanon and received reassurance of Syria's fixed elements that bear on support for the unity, sovereignty and independence of Lebanon. Damascus at all times asserts that there is no alternative to a mutual agreement among the Lebanese, that the alternative to agreement is war, that war is forbidden and consequently that a domestic reconciliation agreement is the way to end the Lebanese ordeal which has been going on for 10 years. Damascus adds that national reconciliation will be the true

guarantee that the war will not resume, that Lebanon will regain vigor through reconciliation, that it will be possible to close up the file on the war for good and that war will not return to Lebanon every century to destroy what its people have built.

Therefore officials in Damascus do not mirror great pessimism over what has been going on the Lebanese scene since the 11 March uprising severed the "cord of ideas" of the Bikfaya meetings. However, the Syrian tanks and troop carriers which moved toward the al-Barbarah barrier were in effect a clear Syrian message underlined by the statement by Brig Gen Mustafa Talas, the Syrian minister of defense. The Syrian message which was received quickly at that time led to the emphasis by the uprising's leaders on the domestic aspect of the struggle underway and the point that the goal was not to infringe on the legitimate authority or the power of the government. One should bear in mind that some of the events established this sort of approach at the beginning, but the consolidation of the legitimate authorities' positions on the one hand and the demonstration of the readiness of the people in the uprising to hold a dialogue with everyone also resulted in Syrian political and military action to deactivate the exploding mine. On this basis, the president managed to assert during his meeting with President al-Asad in the Syrian capital that the Lebanese authorities were able to take control of the stage in a peaceful manner and through dialogue and that it would take 2 months for matters to return to their normal state.

Does that mean that the file on the political settlement will remain closed, while one waits for the government's business in the Jubayl and Kasrawan areas to be worked out? Will the the civil war become exacerbated during the wait?

To the extent that Damascus absorbs the facts concerning each group in Lebanon, it is drawing a line between efforts toward settlement and efforts toward war. Damascus is telling everyone that it is forbidden for war to resume and that it is defining its position regarding each group on the basis of its position on the desired settlement, which is founded on the principle of national reconciliation. The resumption of war is a Syrian red line and Syria will deal with attempts to break through that line in the appropriate way. One should acknowledge here that the development of Lebanese political moderation is now passing through a road laid with the mines of extremism, and one should point to the rocky road to settlement, which nonetheless, Damascus says, is the only road and the sole option facing the Lebanese. War will not produce a victor or vanquished but there will be a victor and winner if the Lebanese cannot find sustenance. As the 11 March uprising movement is committed to the declarations it has made, it avoids a charge of high treason from Syria and benefits from the mitigating causes behind the Syrian verdict on it. The evidence is that something resembling a truce is now in being and that dialogue has resumed in order to take its course in the midst of the minefield of extremism. Further evidence is that the movement of the uprising occurred approximately a year after the 17 May agreement was abrogated, and not at the time of its abrogation, which gives the people holding the uprising a chance to stress the domestic causes of their uprising and to assert that there were no foreign motives for it. One must point out that Israel, on the one hand, and the United States, on the other,

may try to benefit from what is going on, but what has been certain so far is that the settlement process has not stopped, in spite of the declaration of new minefields. The deactivation of the mines of extremism has now become a more pressing demand than at any time in the past. On this basis, the desire for a settlement is growing at a time when voices calling for war are being raised once again.

The Story of the Union with Iraq

As Israel continues the process of assembling its forces and withdrawing them from Lebanese territory, Damascus seems determined to quiet the Lebanese domestic arena down through "concern" over efforts at national reconciliation. As Israel threatens to turn the territory of the south into scorched land and asserts its conditions for the proposed settlement with Jordan, Damascus is asserting its conditions regarding unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and asserting that there are conditions for a comprehensive settlement, the most important and prominent of which are strategic balance with Israel. Syria is working on this basis. The domestic political settlement in Lebanon and the termination of the state of war which has been going on for 10 years are considered part of Syria's activity to attain the desired strategic balance. However, observers in the Syrian capital were struck by President Hafiz al-Asad's statement concerning the experiment of union with Iraq (but none of the other Arab countries with which Syria was linked with experiments at unity in the past). In the speech the Syrian president gave at the session of the constitutional oath on the occasion of his assumption of the presidency for the third term, he spoke at length about the experience of the Syrian-Iraqi union, laying the responsibility for the failure of this union on the regime in Iraq.

The important thing which observers in Damascus have paused to consider is the timing of al-Asad's talk about the experience of the Syrian-Iraqi union. This statement occurred at a time when the Iraqi-Iranian war was becoming exacerbated to a point where it had started to threaten the overall destruction of both countries. President al-Asad's speech seemed to be aimed at the Iraqis in particular, containing an appeal for union with Syria as a means for ending the Iraqi-Iranian war. President al-Asad frankly accused the Iraqi president, Saddam Husayn, of postponing this union at that time, and also said that the postponement of the Syrian-Iraqi union was the prelude to the outbreak of the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Another important thing is that al-Asad once again mentioned the national charter, on the basis of which the Syrian-Iraqi union was declared, at a time when news was circulating about possible Syrian mediation in the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. Syria had previously said, in the words of more than one official, that it was not conducting mediation between Iraq and Iran but that it was interested in preventing the expansion of the war. Syrian diplomacy carried out efforts in this context, but the war escalated in terrifying fashion when it shifted from a war of tankers to a war which extended to Iraqi and Iranian cities in the heartland of the two countries. Now that Iraqi and Iranian missiles have reached the heart of Tehran and Baghdad and the military fronts have witnessed breakthrough attempts in which thousands of soldiers and civilians have been sacrificed, al-Asad's talk about the

experience of the previous Syrian-Iraqi union, which helped give concrete form to the Baghdad summit resolutions, came in effect as a Syrian appeal for union with Iraq as a means for ending the Iraqi-Iranian war -- or, more precisely, as an appeal by President al-Asad to a Syrian-Iraqi union as a prelude to a Syrian role in ending the Iraq-Iran war, and not just preventing its expansion. This is the first time Syria has stated its position on efforts aimed at settling the Gulf war.

Therefore, observers in the Syrian capital state that al-Asad's talk about the Syrian-Iraqi experiment in union is in effect an explicit appeal for union with Iraq, in spite of the failure of the previous experiment. Al-Asad stressed again Syria's commitment to working for union, and stated that that was not a charge which could be levelled against Syria by its enemies -- rather, union is the practical response to fragmentation and consequently, as the Syrian leadership says, an integral part of the Syrian effort to establish a strategic balance with Israel. The Syrian-Iraqi national action charter emerged after the late Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat's visit to occupied Jerusalem to constitute the practical response to Egypt's shift to peace with Israel. At the time, the Syrian-Iraqi agreement led to the establishment of a minimum of solidarity at the summit conference held in Baghdad in 1978. Today, at a time when Israel is retreating from southern Lebanon, while the front for a settlement with Israel is active on the Jordanian front, the Syrian president is recalling the Syrian-Iraqi union which was a fiasco at the outset and is thereby urging the Iraqis to review what happened in the past, calling them to unite with Syria on grounds that this union would be the means for ending the war and reassuring Iran that there was no reason for war with Iraq.

It now appears clear that the Israeli retreat from southern Lebanon constitutes the beginning of a great Israeli withdrawal from involvement in the affairs of the region and raises more than one question on the old Israeli plan based on redrawing the map of the Middle East. Lebanon was the starting point of its plan to attempt to redraw the map of the region and the Israeli invasion of 1982 occurred as a confirmation of the effort to violate the Sykes-Picot agreement. The Syrian efforts which are aimed at getting the Lebanese to reach agreement and at maintaining the unity and independence of Lebanon within its international boundaries are the direct reply to the Israeli invasion, first of all, and to Israel's attempt to establish swamp-like, mutually antagonistic entities in greater Syria to express an overturning of the entire backgammon game of the Middle East. Guaranteeing stability domestically is the way to keep Israel within its current borders, that is, to prevent Israeli expansion beyond the borders that exist now, within the context of the Syrian effort to establish strategic balance with Israel. Syrian policy, which is acting in a conciliatory manner in Lebanon in order to close the file on the war, preparatory to the restoration of domestic Lebanese stability, is at the same time striving toward union with Iraq. The two steps are integrated in the context of the Syrian effort to establish strategic balance with Israel in the wake of Egypt's departure from the balance of the Arab-Israeli struggle and, to the extent that the Syrian effort in Lebanon is opposed, the road to Syrian-Iraqi union seems filled with risks. Al-Asad has said frankly that postponement of the Syrian-Iraqi union arose basically from an American-Western decision to prevent

such a union. Therefore, the Jordanian-Egyptian rapprochement with Iraq seems to be an attempt to prevent the occurrence of this sort of rapprochement with Syria, which cannot take place in the context of the continued escalating tempo of the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Are we faced with a change of another type in the map of the Middle East?

In all events, we are in the midst of a conflict of strategies. The American and NATO withdrawal was the beginning of an Israeli withdrawal not just from Lebanon but, through Lebanon, from the region. This sort of withdrawal means automatically the presence of other forces which possess a different strategy and thus a different conception of the condition of the region. Syria, which was able by virtue of its decisions and by virtue of Soviet support to absorb the blow of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982 and master it, has started to reply, as it seems, as if this was a new period in the history of the Arab area.

11887

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SYRIA

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT TRIPLES IN FIXED PRICES

Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 3 Feb 85 p 7

[Article: "Statistics Speak About the Achievements Under the Leadership of the Builder of Modern Syria. GDP Triples in Fixed Prices. Per Capita Income Increases from 1,094 to 8,064 pounds, and the Public Sector Contributes 67 Percent of Actual Investments"]

[Text] By his sophistication, experience, know-how, intelligence, logic, knowledge and wisdom, our leader, al-Asad, has stood at the helm of the management of the national economy in our country.

By his objective and comprehensive outlook, by assuming responsibility for the toilers and favoring them first with our gains and achievements, our leader al-Asad has established his course and delineated the characteristics of our path to the society of progress and socialism.

By thousands of projects--and in accordance with the policy of establishing equilibrium between economic and social development, lessening the differences between the countryside and the city, affording opportunities for work and a dignified existence for every citizen in this country, no matter how distant his domicile, and aiming at realizing radical changes in the structure of the national economy to enable it to stand firm and be piloted by the public sector to safe haven--the fighter Hafiz al-Asad is building a modern, strong, impregnable and progressive Syria.

The achievements realized by the leader are without number, represented by thousands of projects in the industrial, irrigation, agricultural, services and utilities sectors in every corner of the nation and reflected by the gross indicators of our national economy and growth averages in current and fixed prices during the years of the glorious corrective movement. What then do these indicators say in numbers:

GDP Increases 11 Times

Under President al-Asad's leadership, the value of the GDP in 1983 has increased approximately 11 times from what it was in 1970, amounting to 77.5 billion Syrian pounds. The GDP development rate was 14.4 percent per year, which is a

percentage that is rarely achieved by developing countries. If we were to become acquainted with a sample volume of development actually occurring in the value of the GDP, far away from the effects of price changes, and if we were to equate the value of the 1980 GDP in fixed prices to 100, we find that the value of this GDP has tripled in 1983 from what it was in 1970.

The Public Sector Contributes Approximately 53 Per Cent of the Value of GDP

The economic policy of the corrective movement under the leadership of leader al-Asad has given priority and special and increasing consideration to the public sector in its various economic activities. Statistics indicate that in 1983, the contribution of the public sector to the GDP has come to represent 53 percent of its sum total of 39.384,000,000 Syrian pounds in current prices, and 53 percent in fixed prices.

GDP Development According to Economic Sectors

The development in GDP in relation to the various economic sectors is as follows, and in accordance with subdividing those sectors according to the source or origin of domestic product formation in them:

Statistical data gathered about the value of the domestic product in current prices for the material production sectors indicate a rise from 3,143,000,000 Syrian pounds in 1970 to 35,239,000,000 pounds in 1983. That means that it has increased 11 times during this period and that its GDP percentage for the country reached 45 percent in 1983. In fixed prices however, it has increased approximately 4.27 times.

In the Agriculture Sector

In the agriculture sector, the value of the GDP has reached 15,501,000,000 pounds in 1983 after being equivalent to 1,382,000,000 pounds in 1970. The rate of yearly growth for this sector reached 14 percent in current prices for this period.

The Industrial and Mining Sector

In the industrial and mining sector, it amounted to approximately 14,963,000,000 pounds in 1983 against 1,559,000,000 pounds in 1970, increasing thereby by approximately 10 times. Moreover, its annual growth rate during the period 1980-1983 reached 18.4 percent in current prices and 3.6 percent in fixed prices for 1980.

In the Area of Parts and Construction

In this area, the value of the GDP in 1983 amounted to approximately 4,875,000,000 Syrian pounds in contrast to 202 million Syrian pounds in 1970, or it increased by more than 22 times during this period. Its annual growth rate in the period 1980-1983 has exceeded 11 percent, while in fixed prices this rate has reached 8.1 percent.

Services Sectors Related to Production

These sectors have witnessed a tangible increase in the rate of their contribution to the GDP, reaching 38 percent in both current and fixed prices in 1983. The public sector has performed a basic role in the wholesale and retail trades through establishments and general companies, and the value of its activities and sales has greatly increased.

The transportation and communications sector has also made great progress in the numerous transportation areas, especially in the area of railroad transportation in the country's provinces. The value of the GND has risen to 5,785,000,000 pounds in 1983, while it was equivalent to 733 million in 1970, thus achieving a big rate of growth by increasing twelvefold in this period.

In the financial sector, there was progress in the areas of deposits and the loans that were granted to the economic sectors by the competent banks. The annual growth rate for these sectors in current prices amounted to 14.4 percent, and to 6.7 percent in fixed prices.

Statistical data about the value of the GDP in the commercial sector have indicated that it has increased eighteenfold in the period 1970-1983. The value of the GDP reached 19,253,000,000 pounds in 1983, in contrast to 1,395,000,000 pounds in 1970, achieving an annual growth rate of approximately 15 percent in current prices from 1980 to 1983.

In the finance, insurance and real estate sector, the GDP achieved was equivalent to 731 million pounds in 1970, rising to 4,131,000,000 in 1983, or it increased more than 18 times in this period, and the annual growth rate achieved in the period 1970-1980 was approximately 8.1 percent.

The Sectors of the Other Services

These are the sectors for social, personal and governmental services, and for the activities of non-profit oriented organizations. Those sectors contributed to the GDP at the rate of 17 percent in 1983, as opposed to 12 percent in 1970.

Statistics indicate that the value of the GDP for the other sectors reached 13,002,000,000 Syrian pounds, as opposed to 846 million pounds in 1970, or that it increased more than 15 times during this period. Moreover, the annual growth rate for these sectors during that same period reached 11.7 percent per annum in current prices, and 8.6 percent in fixed prices.

Increase of Per Capita Share of GDP

The inevitable result of the rising growth rates for the various sectors of the national economy under the wise economic policy of leader al-Asad was the growth in the average per capita share of the GDP in the country. In current prices, this average has increased from 1,094 Syrian pounds a year in 1970 to 8,064 Syrian pounds in 1980. The annual per capital growth rate in the period 1980-1983 reached approximately 10.7 percent.

In fixed prices, the average share of the individual reached 6,322 Syrian pounds a year in 1983, achieving an average annual growth rate of 2 percent in the period 1980-1983.

Increase in Fixed Capital Formation

Capital formation, representing the sum of real investments committed to fixed assets to increase and raise the competence of production capabilities in the country, achieved a big increase. The value of investments rose from 897 million pounds in 1970 to 18,139,000,000 in 1983.

It increased by more than twentyfold in this period, and the annual growth rate for these investments during the years 1980-1983 reached 8.7 percent. The public sector contributed a considerable part of the investments, reaching 12,167,000,000 pounds in 1983, which represents 67 percent of the total actual investments.

In 1983 the investments were distributed in the following main sectors:

- 1.362 billion pounds in the agriculture sector.
- 5.892 billion pounds in the industrial and mining sector.
- 2.426 billion pounds in the services sector.
- 4.417 billion pounds in the housing sector.
- 4.042 billion pounds in the other sectors.

The figures are taken from the releases of the Central Statistical Office.

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SYRIA

EUPHRATES DAM STATISTICS REVIEWED

Damascus TISHRIN in Arabic 3 Feb 85 p 7

[Article: "Euphrates Dam a Big Achievement for al-Asad Leadership.
President Hafiz al-Asad: 'We wanted the Euphrates dam as a way of supporting our economy and a means to a basic change in the life of our society.'"]

[Excerpts] The corrective movement and its leader, comrade fighter Hafiz al-Asad, have big achievements to their credit, but the achievement that stands proud, strong and a challenge to nature, being a symbol of the will of the revolution and the resolve and determination of the Arab human being to face the challenges and difficulties and overcome them, and a symbol of his sway over nature, armed with science and technology for the realization of a bright future, is the great Euphrates dam.

The Body of the Dam and the Hydroelectric Station

The idea behind the Euphrates dam is the storage of the Euphrates river flood waters and their use in irrigating large tracts of agricultural lands amounting to 640,000 hectares in area and establishing generating complexes for electrical energy with an annual yield of 2.5 billion kilowatt-hours. We will not go into many engineering details, but let us review together the general characteristics of both the body of the dam, and the electrical station:

The Body of the Dam:

The Euphrates dam was erected in the bedding zone from earthen materials with an impervious core in the center to prevent water seepage.

The length of the main dam is 4,500 meters, its width is 512 meters at the base, 19 meters at the top and 308 meters at water level, and its height is 60 meters, the water level at the top, 305.5 meters and its maximum height, 15 meters. The outlet, 250 meters in length, is being built from concrete between the main dam and the left wing. It is pierced by openings at the top and 12 openings at the bottom, equipped with front and rear iron gates. The maximum height of the outlet is 75 meters with a capacity of 19,000 cubic meters per second when the water storage level is 300 meters. The total volume of the dam is 46 million cubic meters, most of which were filled by the hydraulic fill method.

Behind the dam, al-Asad Lake has formed, 630 square km in area, 80 km in length, and reaching 20 km in width in some parts. The lake's water storage capacity is approximately 12 billion cubic meters. In July 1973 storage was begun in this lake when the flow of the Euphrates river was closed. In 1975 it reached its water storage capacity and it began to be utilized in the irrigation of new agricultural lands from that date, which also witnessed the warding off of the dangers of the annual flooding of the Euphrates river in Syria and Iraq.

The hydroelectric station, which is considered an integral part of the Euphrates dam, is located on the right bank of the flood plain, and is one of the biggest generating stations in Syria.

It consists of eight sets to generate energy, each with a capacity of 100,000 kilowatts, and with an annual energy production that is estimated to be approximately 2.5 billion kilowatts.

The first complex of this station began operating in May 1974. It produces and generates electricity at extremely low expenditures, especially if it were to be compared with the cost of production in the diesel stations that predominate in Syria before the implementation of this hydroelectric station.

Dates in the Life of the Euphrates Dam:

8 March 1964: Work begins on the construction of the Euphrates dam.

5 July, 1973: Diversion of the flow of the Euphrates river, closing the river, and the beginning of storage.

1 May 1974: Operation of the first complex, generation of electrical energy, and placing it on the country's national grid.

1975: The conclusion of the main works in the body of the dam.

8 March 1976: The president's visit to the location of the dam and the inauguration of the finish of the Euphrates dam.

12775

CSO: 4404/308

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

BRIEFS

CAR CRASH KILLS COMMANDER--The Ministry of Defense today announced the death of Major 'Abduh Salih Yusuf, commander of the Special Units, who died in a car crash yesterday evening. The funeral for the deceased was held today. The funeral was attended by Brigadier General 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau and deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, Brigadier General Salih Muslih Qasim, member of the Political Bureau and minister of defense; Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man, deputy prime minister and minister of fisheries; members of the YSP Central Committee; Colonel 'Abdallah 'Ali 'Ulaymah, first deputy minister of defense and chief of General Staff; the first deputy director of the Political Directorate; the two deputy interior ministers; and commanders, officers, and NCOs of the armed forces. The deceased, Maj 'Abduh Salih Yusuf, was a military commander who linked his destiny to the revolution and dedicated his life to the service of the homeland and the revolution. He joined the armed forces in January 1967. [Excerpt] [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 May 85 GF]

CSO: 4400/164

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT OPENS MODEL CITRUS FARM IN MA'RIB

Sanaa AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 19 Apr 85 p 1

[Article: "President and General Secretary Opens Model Citrus Farm in Ma'rib"]

[Text] Ma'rib—SABA'—Yesterday morning brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander-in-chief of the armed forces, and general secretary to the General People's Congress opened a model citrus farm at Ma'rib, carried out by the Ma'rib Citrus Company and partially financed by the Cooperative and Agricultural Credit Bank.

The brother president was met on his arrival at the farm by Dr. Ahmad al-Hamadani, minister of agriculture and fisheries, brother Ahmad 'Abdallah al--'Aqil, chairman of the company's board of directors, and the farm's engineers.

Immediately on arriving the brother president unveiled the farm's commemorative plaque; he then planted its first orange tree. The farm's area is 500 hectares, or 113,500 (libnah).

In the first stage 23,000 orange trees will be planted. The farm will expand in the second stage after complete cultivation of the area, to include 150,000 citrus trees, with the capacity to produce 10,000 tons of oranges annually. Its total cost is estimated at 55 million riyals. The project will accommodate a number of Yemeni agricultural workers. This project is regarded as one of the agricultural projects being completed in the Ma'rib governorate. It will play a part in developing agricultural production and achieving self-sufficiency in fruit production, in the attainment of our agricultural development goals, which have great importance for our development, and which enjoy government support and supervision.

During the opening of the project the brother president and general secretary was accompanied by a number of brothers from the Council of Ministers, the permanent committee, the General People's Congress, and the deputy governor for the Ma'rib governorate.

In addition, the brother president and general secretary went on a fact-finding tour yesterday evening of a number of cultural and service facilities

in Ma'rib, where he learned how the facilities operate and heard explanations from their officials on the level of services these facilities provide to citizens in fulfilling the responsibilities that they entail.

The brother president and general secretary stressed to officials during this tour the importance of the role these facilities play in providing necessary services to citizens, and of their solicitous care to give and work as much as they can in order to deepen our democracy and achieve our goals and national commitments.

9310

CSO: 4404/336

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

REPORT ON YEMEN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Sanaa AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 27 Apr 85 p 2

[Article: "Meeting of the General Assembly of the Yemen Bank for Reconstruction and Development"]

[Text] Sanaa—SABA'—The General Assembly of the Yemeni Bank for Reconstruction and Development held its 22d meeting yesterday morning, chaired by Brother Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Samawi, president of the board of directors.

The meeting began with a reading of a report from the administrative council and the auditor of the bank's finances for the fiscal year ending 31 December 1984, which came to 11,078,071,000 riyals, as opposed to 6,607,898,000 riyals in 1983.

After the brother president of the board of directors completed reading the report from the auditor and the board of directors on the fiscal year ending 31 December 1984, the floor was opened for discussion and responses were given to all questions and comments from participants. The general assembly then unanimously approved the report from the auditor and the board on the Yemen Bank's general budget and final accounts for the year ending 31 December 1984 and approved members of the board of directors on all aspects of their administration in the aforementioned year. It agreed, as suggested by the board, to distribute dividends of 25 percent. It authorized the administrative council to set funds as stipulated in the bank's bylaws and it empowered the administrative council to select an auditor for 1985.

The meeting was attended by brother Muhammad Yahya Rasi', representing the government's share; Ma'mun Talib, an observer from the Ministry of Economy and Industry, Ahmad Qa'id al-Shaybani, representing the Central Auditing and Accounting Office; and Husayn al-'Adini, a delegate from the Ministry of Finance.

The assembly was also attended by brothers from the board of directors, and a large number of stockholders or their representatives.

9310
CSO: 4404/336

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

SANAA, TA'IZZ PROJECTS INAUGURATED

Sanaa AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 16 Apr 85 p 2

[Article: "Cornerstones Laid and Opening Ceremonies Held for Projects in the Governorates of Sanaa and Ta'izz"]

[Text] Sanaa--SABA'--Brother Ahmad al-Matari, governor of Sanaa governorate and member of the Permanent Committee, visited Raymah district where he opened and laid the cornerstones for a number of service projects in al-Jabi county.

The brother governor also laid the cornerstone for the construction of the interior section of the Friendship Institute at al-Ribat Market, as well as the cornerstone for physicians' housing at al-Jabi center.

Also opened was a project to train local midwives at al-Jabi Health Center, which includes trainees from various rural areas in Raymah district.

After graduating, the trainees will provide health services, treat women's illnesses, and attend births in various parts of Raymah district.

The brother governor of Sanaa and member of the Permanent Committee also laid the cornerstone for a secondary school established at government expense at al-Jabi center.

He also opened an agricultural and veterinary medicine guidance center established at government expense to provide guidance in agriculture and veterinary medicine to citizens of Raymah district.

The citizens expressed their happiness with the opening of these vital projects and the laying of their cornerstones as well as their gratitude toward the political command under the leadership of brother President and General Secretary Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih for his continual concern for the rural areas, affirming their solidarity with the political command.

They praised the government's projects and services and the great efforts of the devoted son of Yemen brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The citizens sent their greetings and thanks to the brother president and general secretary through the governor of Sanaa and member of the Permanent Committee.

Brother Ahmad al-Matari in turn brought greetings to the sons of Raymah from brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the Republic, commander-in-chief of the armed forces, and general secretary of the General People's Congress.

He praised the stand the sons of the area have taken in defending the revolution and the republic. In the name of the brother president he announced the funding of five secondary schools at the county centers of al-Jabi, Kusmah, al-Ja'Fariyah, al-Salafiyah, and Bilad al-Ta'am.

Likewise he announced a field study of water resources in the area, in light of which projects for drinking water and artesian wells for irrigation will be carried out, noting that the study team was accompanying him on this trip.

He likewise urged citizens to cooperate and stand together in the development of the area and to carry out their responsibilities to the country just as they obtain their rights from it.

He stressed the importance of organizing and developing revenues, especially since the government spends them in the interest of the people.

The brother governor gave assurances that the government led by the brother president will not be remiss in developing and modernizing local government.

In this regard he noted that the recent enactment of the special law on local councils for development and cooperation is considered a good move up for the Yemeni countryside.

On this trip for opening these projects and laying their cornerstones, the governor was accompanied by Judge Yahya al-Fasil, president of the General Authority for Educational Institutions, brother Isma'il al-Kabsi, Sanaa deputy governor for Raymah affairs, and a number of directors from ministry offices.

The brother governor will also continue his visits to the rest of the Counties of Raymah district.

In other news, brother Muhsin al-Yusufi, governor of Ta'izz and member of the Permanent Committee, opened the first phase of a sheep- and cattle-fattening lot in al-Gharrafi area of Muwazzi' county, which cost 9 million riyals, financed by the private sector and the Cooperative and Agricultural Credit Bank. The project will fatten and market 60 to 70 calves and lambs daily.

The brother governor also opened the first phase of the al-Mukha city water project, which was paid for by the county cooperative at a cost of 480,000 riyals.

He opened the Yakhtul Mosque, built at the expense of the good people of the area at a cost of one million riyals.

He likewise laid the cornerstone for the Yakhtul preparatory school, which cost 150,000 riyals.

The brother governor also opened the al-Ruway and al-Zahari primary schools, both built by the cooperative at a combined cost of 250,000 rials.

He laid the cornerstone for the al-Mukha' Port Authority building, and opened sections belonging to the ports, which cost 2 million riyals and were paid for by the General Organization for Ports and Maritime Affairs.

While carrying out these openings and laying the cornerstones, the brother governor was accompanied by officials and cooperative leaders in the governorate.

9310

CSO: 4404/336

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

BRIEFS

CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH GDR--Yesterday the Ministry of Education signed an executive cultural and educational cooperation agreement between our country and the German Democratic Republic for the years 1985 and 1986. Dr. Husayn al-'Amri, minister of education, signed the agreement for Yemen; His Excellency Luther (Edel Lorawet), ambassador of the German Democratic Republic to Sanaa, signed for Germany. The signing ceremony was attended by the undersecretary of education and a representative from the Foreign Ministry. The agreement covers a number of areas of cultural and educational cooperation between the two sides which are in the interest of the two countries. [Text] [Sanaa AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 29 Apr 85 p 2] 9310

FOREIGN MINISTRY ADVISER--A presidential decree was issued today appointing Mustafa Ya'qub as adviser to the Foreign Ministry. [Excerpt] [Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 May 85 GF]

LOAN AGREEMENT RATIFIED--Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the brother leader president and secretary general, has ratified Law No 20 for 1985, which has been approved by the People's Constituent Assembly, approving the agreement of the third routine loan between the YAR and the Arab Monetary Fund. [Excerpt] [Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Jun 85 GF]

CSO: 4400/163

AFGHANISTAN

DOCUMENTS REVEAL U.S. AID TO RESISTANCE

Kabul ANIS in Dari 20 Mar 85 pp 2,4

[Text] There is every indication that the disgraceful Reagan administration is trying to spread an undeclared war in order to apply strategic plans made for it by the Pentagon and the CIA planners; accordingly, it has begun an international war against Afghanistan to achieve its pre-established goals.

With every frustration and disgraceful defeat which the powerful hands of the heroic armed forces and the revolutionary people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have given to the exported mercenary counter-revolution, acting as the agent to carry out this interventionist and inhumane plan, the insanity of the imperialists for vengeance against our arisen people becomes ever more frantic. By spreading their despicable intervention, they hope to arrest the victory of the Sawr revolution, which bears the message of freedom, honor and dignity, and a happy life for the enslaved people.

In spite of the false claims and demagoguery designed to save face for the powers that be in the United States and their allies among the general public, it is proper that undeniably authentic documents and irrefutable evidence be used to expose the increased crimes of these traitors--for ultimately lies and story-telling will lead to nothing but disgrace and divulgence of reality.

Because of its open intervention in the affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the United States government, which violates all of the norms and standards of international conduct today is not only caught up in great difficulties, but as the curtain is drawn back to expose its savage and secret activities, it has to face some inescapable disgrace. If the fact comes before American public opinion for judgment, the Watergate scandal will seem very small by comparison, and the memory will be reawakened of the Washington administration's shame after the exposure of the Pentagon papers concerning Vietnam, when the president at the time admitted deceiving the American people and resigned.

Documents which have come to hand show that the government of the United States, with the help of the murderous CIA--in a situation of which, according to law, even the bourgeois Congress and the House of Representatives must have been aware has sent heat-seeking Stinger rockets to Afghan counterrevolutionary

bands in Pakistan by way of the government of Saudi Arabia, to whom it had originally delivered the rockets.

A letter from the so-called "Union of the Islamic Afghan Mojahedin" addressed to the band's military commanders, noting that the counterrevolutionaries are not familiar with American weapons, asks that some trained Pakistani advisors be sent for help. This document is signed by the general commander of the district, in accordance with this group's own system of self-styled regional divisions.

Another document from the office of the commissioner of the so-called "Afghan Mojahedin" introduces eight American and Saudi Arabian specialists and two French physicians bound for the previously-used arms transfer point, asking that each specialist be accompanied by a Dari-speaking interpreter.

Another document from the Deputy Director of Intelligence in Peshawar to the Director General of Intelligence in Islamabad introduces five experts assigned to create commotion and chaos in Afghanistan, especially in Kabul on 21 March, namely New Year's day and advised complete secrecy in the implementation of the plan.

However, the outcome of secret plotting, treason, and corruption can only be disgrace. The disreputable Washington administration, which has already been smitten by such scandals, has not yet given up its black activities. In the same manner, but on a wider scale, it seeks to throw dust in the eyes of the people of the world, and initially the people of the United States themselves, in order to prevent the sight of the bloody hands of the Pentagon and the CIA, which are engaged in a secret war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, i.e., our people and the revolution from beyond the seas through the land of Pakistan.

The United States is not only providing training to murderous counterrevolutionary bands in Egypt, selling large quantities of heavy weapons such as surface-to-air missiles and heavy and light artillery and machinery to that country, but on its own soil and within the installations of its armed forces it has begun to train the mercenary traitors of our country and the people.

In Pakistan itself official letters concerning military instruction and training for Afghan insurgents have now begun to appear. Naturally, the first objective in their use will be to put down the extensive movements of the masses of Pakistan against Zia ol-Haq's bloodthirsty regime, so that the dictator of Islamabad can use them to quell the waves of opposition to his notorious elections.

One document from the office of the Chief Secretary in Peshawar addressed to all political agencies in the Northwest reveals General Zia ol-Haq's telephone number for putting down resistance to his laughable elections, using armed groups of so-called "Afghan Mojahedin" in tribal areas, so that whoever speaks out against the general will be eliminated immediately.

Another document, signed by Golbedin Hekmatyar, chief of the Hezb-3 Eslami group, addressed to the district commander named Dust Mohammad, completely reveals a plan which has been turned over to the Afghan counterrevolutionaries by telephone order from General Zia ol-Haq. This document states that the success of the Pakistani dictator's elections has a direct relationship to the aspirations of the counterrevolutionaries.

These irrefutable documents, which are very numerous, as clearly as does the corresponding collusion between the disreputable regime of General Zia ol-Haq and the counterrevolutionaries, bespeak the secret plots, cooperation, and collaboration in the anti-Afghan plotting by the Islamabad regime and America's leaders.

Another letter from the Pakistani Foreign Ministry's chief of protocol in Islamabad to the Pakistani High Commissioner for Afghan refugees, ordered that, in accordance with the advice of former American Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in his meeting with General Zia, the chiefs of tribes who are against General Zia should be eliminated with the armed assistance of the Afghan Mojahedin, and if this is not possible they should be put behind bars.

Does the American nation and world public opinion know that Kissinger ordered the elimination of leaders of dissident tribes, through the mercenary offices of General Zia himself? If any shameful documents showing the Islamabad regime's submission to Washington and its intervention in Afghanistan's internal affairs are needed, what better one than this document could be produced?

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is not unaware of what is going on around it, and the Reagan administration and the Islamabad regime will not be able to hide their plots from the sharp eyes and the revolutionary awareness of the people of our country.

Once again the people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan cry out in protest, anger, and revulsion against the continuation and spread of reactionary imperialism's undeclared war and the hegemony of world-burning imperialism headed by the United States, and they vow that they will not rest until all the open and hidden plots against their country and revolution are defeated.

Top Secret

From: Deputy Director of Intelligence (IB)
NWFP Peshawar

TO: Director General of Intelligence (B)
Islamabad

6 February 1985

In accordance with the decision for creation of chaos and commotion in Afghanistan, especially in Kabul on 21 March 1985, we introduce our five

people who are very active and knowledgeable. Penetrate each man in Mojahedin groups; and send them to Afghanistan; and give each a medicine-box and an Afghan identification card, which was forwarded to you already.

Except commanders of Mojahedin groups the rest of members must not know that they are our people.

Secrecy must be observed at all levels during execution of the plan.

Mohammad Ahmad Khan
Deputy Director of Intelligence
NWF Peshawar

Copy to: The Military Secretary to the President of Pakistan

High Commissioner of Islamabad Refugees.

Secret

Office of the Commissioner, Afghan Refugees, NWFP, Peshawar

No. 4663-68/1-171(s)AR

Dated January 8, 1985, Peshawar

Subject: Subversive Activities

We wish to introduce to you eight specialists from our friendly countries the United States and the Saudi Arabia and two doctors from France; please send them to the fronts where new arms have been transferred. Notify us when they reach there and also try to send with each specialist one Dari interpreter.

(Mohammad Ma'ruf Khan) PPM

In charge of Security Commissioner

Afghan Refugees, NWFP, Peshawar

1. Diatt; Administrators, Afghan Refugees, Peshawar, Khat and Banau
2. Agency Administrator, Afghan Refugees, North Wasiristan Agency and Kurram.

Afghan Union of the Islamic Mojahedin

Brother Mojahed Qovamdan Dust Mohammad

I hope you are successful in your crusade for God

Brother Mojahed:

I have received the letter that you sent by way of brother Khan Mohammad, and I thank God for the health of all the Mojahedin on the path of Truth. I

have received all the aid that you sent, and may you remain under God's protection.

Brother Mojahed, as I told you before, in the Pakistan elections, try to have all our Mojahedin work for the benefit of General Mohammad Zia ol-Haq, because his success is directly connected with our crusade for the freedom of Afghanistan. Try to have all of our Mojahedin in Pakistan during the elections, to do their part in eliminating the opposition to President General Zia ol-Haq on the one hand, and on the other hand to take part in the elections, to do their part in eliminating the opposition to President General Zia ol-Haq on the one hand, and on the other hand to take part in the elections.

Hoping for victory of the Truth over the Falsehood!

Golbedin Hekmatyar
Chief, the Islamic Party of Afghanistan

Afghan Union of the Islamic Mojahedin

Respected Brother Commander of the Military Committee

Peace be upon you and the mercy and blessings of God

Since our guerrillas do not have the necessary familiarity with American-made weapons, we ask that you send a group of Pakistani advisors to our front, to take part in this holy crusade with us on the one hand, and on the other to train us in the use of new weapons; moreover, we taught guerrilla warfare techniques to Pakistani advisor who worked with us before. In conclusion, hoping for your protection by Almighty God.

District Chief (signed)

Top Secret

From: The Office of the Chief Secretary, N.W.F.P.

To: All Political Agents in N.W.F.P.

Subject: Motivation of Tribals

Reference No TA. Secty/INT/XXX-811-15 date 25,12,85 received from Tribal Affairs Secretary states that:

As per telephone instruction of Gen. Mohammad Zia ol-Haq that for the veiling of anarchism and resistance during elections, powerful groups among the Mojahedin must be organized and stabilized on the frontiers of tribals in order to destroy them immediately if they act against General Zia.

By the way, these groups must be organized under the advice of Afghan Mojahedin leaders, and we must be notified of the steps taken. If they do not have the special voiceless arms, please contact to provide them.

A.S. Butt
S.O. to Chief Secretary

Memo Number: CF/T.T.PA/1002-17, Dated 8.1.85

Copy to Secretary Tribal Affairs
ISLAMABAD

TOP SECRET

NO: PTI/H1-Comr/AR/9223.V

From: Chief of Protocol
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Islamabad

To: High Commissioner for Afghan Refugees
Islamabad

Subject: Improper Protocol

As per advice of Dr Kissinger, former American Secretary of State, who met with General Mohammad Zia ol-Haq, you are now instructed that tribal leaders who oppose General Zia or try to participate in the elections are to be wiped out with the aid of Afghan Mojahedin. If you do not succeed with this, have them put in jail in the later days of elections. We have already discussed this decision with the heads of the Afghan Mojahedin and they have agreed.

This subject is top secret, instruct your workers verbally.

Chief of Protocol
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
ISLAMABAD

9310
CSO: 4665/73

AFGHANISTAN

MULTIFACETED HELP TO FARMERS DISCUSSED WITH MINISTER

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 21 Mar 85 pp 2, 7

/Text/ As a result of the deep concern of the party and the government in the area of farming and the comprehensive programs of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform, in order to enhance living conditions and increase the level of country's farmers' production, there will be beneficial and fundamental plans implemented in the future.

Regarding this subject, DEHQAN's correspondent interviewed Dr 'Abdul Ghafar Lakanwal, minister of agriculture and land reform, which appears below for the better familiarization of the toiling farmers and other readers of the newspaper.

Mr Lakanwal in answer to the question of DEHQAN's correspondent stated: With regard to the continual supervision of the central committee of the PDPA, the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform of the DRA and the local organs, based on the agricultural policies of the PDPA we have been able to create the proper grounds for an increase in the level of farm products both qualitatively and quantitatively through fundamental and profound transformations.

In the year 1363 /21 March 1984 - 20 March 1985/ comprehensive consideration was given to this principle so that all the existing farming areas could be extensively cultivated.

Proper use will be made of the science and the experiments of advanced and effective agro-techniques, chemical fertilizers, improved grain seeds, introduction of plant and animal preservation and protection services so that maximum utilization of land becomes possible. To this end, in order to enhance the farmers' quality of life and increase the level of production during 1363, 136,468 tons of chemical fertilizer at a value of 81.3 million afghanis, pesticides and herbicides, 14,000 tons of improved grain seeds and more than

5,000 tons of improved cotton seeds have been put at the disposal of the farmers and the members of agricultural cooperatives. Chemical fertilizer which is one of the main factors for an increase in farm production--here it should be noted that despite all the difficulties and shameful interventions by the internal counterrevolutionaries and imperialism, the amount of the fertilizer which was distributed among the farmers throughout the country during 1363 was unprecedented in the history of our agriculture.

Similarly, for the purpose of facilitating the collection of farm products, in 1363 mechanized farm stations were active in 52,000 hectares of agricultural lands helping farmers and agricultural cooperatives, thus resulting in a 9 percent increase over the year 1362. In the same manner, in 1363 in the area of plant protection and fight against pests and diseases of plants, vegetables and trees some fruitful and beneficial activities took place by several teams in charge of fighting plants' pests and diseases. Also for the purpose of treatment and protection of the animals belonging to the farmers and agricultural cooperatives, veterinary services were extended and over 22,000 animals were artificially inseminated. As a result of the significant assistance which was given to the farmers and agricultural cooperatives, in 1363 farm products took an upswing by dint of the farmers hard work.

Regarding the beneficial programs of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform for the farmers in the year 1364 /21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986/, Mr Lakanwal stated: According to the policy of PDPA and the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan new decisions have been made toward upgrading farm products in the economic and social development plans for the year 1364.

Rapid continuation of the implementation of the democratic land and water reform projects with the direct cooperation of the farmers has been encouraged so that in 1364 the land and water program can be further expanded. During 1363 free land will be distributed to 10,000 deserving families, 52,000 hectares of disputed land will be duly settled and cleared among 35,000 farmers' families and on the whole a total of 50,000 land title deeds will be distributed.

Along with the implementation of the land and water reforms, particular attention has been paid to the extension and expansion of the cooperative movement through restructuring and strengthening cooperative activities during the current 1364 year. To this end, 42 new cooperatives have been opened and various kinds of credits to the tune of 197.7 million afghanis will be put at the disposal of the cooperative members. Furthermore, it is intended to renovate the infrastructural facilities of the typical agricultural cooperatives throughout the country so that the gross production of farms can reach 922 million afghanis and present the extra amount of produce, which will be around 26,600 tons of products, for sale to domestic and foreign markets. By the same token, in order to provide the necessary facilities to assist cultivation

and transport farm products, mechanized stations will be expanded; and with a view to providing up-to-date farming know-how and bettering and making the activities of the mechanized stations more effective, sub-station mechanized units will be built and put into operation in some provinces so that the infrastructure of the mechanized agricultural stations could be more strengthened by the continued construction of dormitories, training centers and parks for agricultural machinery and equipment.

Also it is planned that in 1364 the volume of financial and technical assistance to the farmers and farm cooperatives will be increased considerably. To this end, 130,000 tons of various kinds of chemical fertilizers, 15,000 tons of improved wheat grain seeds, 6,700 tons of cotton seeds, 50 tons of sugar-beet seeds and one thousand kilograms of herb seeds will be distributed to the farmers, members of the cooperatives and governmental farms.

In order to prevent the damages caused by the plant and animal diseases, an equivalent of 70 million afghanis worth of pesticides and herbicides will be put at the disposal of the farmers and animal breeders; similarly, protection and preservation services covering an area of 320,000 hectares of land under cultivation of cereals, cooking vegetables and sugar-beets will be offered. Furthermore, in 1364 with a view to better protecting the animals and provide more effective veterinary services in some of the provinces of the country, new animal clinics will be set up and ten million animals will be protected against animal diseases while 9.5 million vaccines will be produced. Moreover, propagation and animal breeding services, particularly in the area of poultry and sheep-breeding sectors, will be expanded. Through the introduction and presentation of such comprehensive agricultural services from the government to the farmers, agricultural cooperatives and governmental farms, the volume of gross farm production sector will have a 9.5 percent increase over the years before the revolution.

Mr Lakanwall went on to add: While I extend my congratulations to all the respectable and toiling farmers throughout the land on the eve of the New Year, I also wish that 1364 will be a year of prosperity and happiness for all the farmers and hope that through the comprehensive agricultural assistance of the government, our farmers will not desist from any effort to improve and increase their farm products. I hope by their valiant presence on the scene and the formation of defensive groups among themselves as defenders of the revolution, or through the formation of village Farmers' Council or agricultural cooperatives they take active participation in implementing the agricultural programs of the PDPA and the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in 1364; and while they are holding farm tools in one hand to increase farm products and carrying arms in another hand, they will courageously and valiantly safeguard the accomplishments of the great revolution.

12719

CSO: 4665/80

AFGHANISTAN

SOVIET TROOPS REPORTEDLY MASSACRE 1,000 VILLAGERS

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 19 May 85 p 5

[Text]

NEW DELHI (Dispatches) — Soviet troops recently massacred more than 1,000 villagers in eastern Afghanistan in one of the bloodiest attacks since the Soviets invaded the country 5 1/2 years ago, reliable sources said last week.

The report said Afghan officials asked the Soviets to allow Afghan troops to take part in the operation against suspected freedom fighters in an effort to reduce the bloodshed but the Soviets refused.

According to the reports, Soviet troops, backed by as many as 200 tanks and armored personnel carriers, attacked a dozen villages in Laghman Province, east of Kabul, from March 11 to 18 in a search for the fighters.

More than 1,000 civilians were killed, the report said. "Dead bodies were left lying everywhere," one report said. "Houses were looted and burned, and the inhabitants left their villages."

The report said the villages included Kas-Aziz-Khan, Charbagh, Bala Bagh, Sabzabad, Mamdrawer, Haider Khan and Pul-I-Joghi — all in the Kharga District of Laghman.

Representatives of the villagers approached one of the officials to complain about the massacre.

"He replied that the operation was undertaken because the villagers were supporting the Mujahideen (Muslim fighters)," said one report.

"But he gave permission for them to return to their villages and bury the dead," the report added.

The Muslim fighters however, reappeared in the villages, prompting a second Soviet operation from March 22 to 26, the report said.

"Again, a large number of civilians were killed," the report said.

The Laghman massacre was "one of the largest" by Soviet troops on civilians, one report said.

Reports of Soviet attacks on civilians are becoming more frequent. On March 26, the massacre of 900 villagers was reported in northern Kunduz Province.

CSO: 4600/461

AFGHANISTAN

GOVERNMENT'S MAJOR ROLE IN HOME MORTGAGE CONSTRUCTION LOAN

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 5 Mar 85 pp 1-2

[Text] Question: To what persons does the bank make loans?

Answer: The Mortgage and Construction Bank makes loans to build and to finish half-completed construction and to repair the houses of officials, officers, workers, wage earners, retired government employees, municipal officials, members of factories, cooperative institutions, unions, social organizations, and PDPA professional members.

Question: What is the interest rate on the loans the bank makes?

Answer: The Construction Bank's loans are made at 8 percent.

Question: What is the size of the loans that the bank gives to qualified people?

Answer: Formerly the size of the loan for every borrower was up to 60,000 afghanis and when the borrower had exhausted, the aforementioned amount and his construction work was still not completed he could still borrow another 40,000 afghanis. This means that the maximum limit on what someone could borrow from the bank was 100,000 afghanis. Recently however, taking into consideration the costs of construction with an eye to helping the borrowers more, the maximum limit on one person's borrowing was raised from 100,000 to 150,000 afghanis. This means that the first time a borrower can borrow 60,000 afghanis, and when he has spent all that and the construction work is not yet complete, he can still borrow another 60,000 afghanis. Of course, upon exhaustion of the second loan, he can borrow another 30,000 afghanis from the bank if the construction is unfinished.

Question: To how many persons has the bank made loans during the current year?

Answer: From 21 March 1985 to the present more than 42,000,000 afghanis have been loaned to 724 qualified borrowers.

Question: What accommodations has the bank made available to borrowers?

Answer: Through the implementation of the Loan Distribution Bill that became effective in 1982, a series of accommodations worthy of note have been provided for borrowers, including extension of the repayment period from 3 years to 5 years. Secondly, consumption loans were distributed previously to borrowers who had land and a home in the urban project areas, but through the implementation of the bill, loans are also distributed to the needy in the country's provinces.

In addition, previously consumption loans were given only to persons who owned a house and land that could be built upon in the project areas. However, through the implementation of the bill, whenever land is in the name of one spouse who has no official job, a loan will be given to the other spouse who is qualified for a bank loan with a guarantee of one spouse's official employment and the guarantee of the other spouse's house. Similarly, whenever land or a house is in the name of a parent who does not have official employment, a loan will be given in accordance with the law's conditions to a child who has official employment and who lives with that parent in the same house, the security being the employment of the child and the house of the father or mother.

9597

CSO: 4665/67

AFGHANISTAN

REVOLUTIONARY COURTS REPORTEDLY SYMBOL OF TERROR

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 12 May 85 p 5

[Text]

NEW DELHI (Dispatches) — Special revolutionary courts packed with Russian advisers and untrained Communist judges now decide all major cases in Afghanistan, in a legal system of staged trials and routine torture.

"Law in Afghanistan today exists only on paper," said senior Supreme Court Judge Muhammad Yusuf Azim, who defected from Afghanistan earlier this year.

Azim, 45, one of seven senior judges on the Supreme Council of the Afghan Supreme Court, said the Soviet-installed regime in Kabul has maintained the framework of a proper legal system "in order to avoid antagonizing the people any further."

Yusuf, who was in charge of the commercial section of the court, said two of his decisions in commercial cases which went against the government were never implemented. After the decisions he received letters from the government warning him not to repeat such mistakes.

Regular court decisions are frequently ignored, he said, and the number of judges in the court system has dwindled from 900 to 600.

Azim said all cases involving political crimes, security or members of the Communist People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) are brought before "special revolutionary courts."

The courts were first established in 1978 after a military coup brought Afghanistan's first Communist government to power.

They were greatly expanded after the Soviet invasion in 1979.

Soviet advisers have been placed at every level of the court and of the Justice Ministry, Azim said. The Soviets help administer the system and keep careful watch on individual cases.

No Right of Appeal

"There is no right of appeal in the revolutionary courts," he said. "All decisions, except for the imposition of the death penalty, are final." The government must confirm death sentences, he said. Severe punishments are handed out for even minor political crimes, he said.

Azim cited the case of a military orderly who was sentenced to four years in prison for carrying a sealed letter from his officer that con-

tained political comments against the government.

Listening to Western radio broadcasts can bring three-year sentences and draft evasion is punishable by death, he said.

Azim charged the revolutionary courts violate most rules of procedure and evidence.

"The judges are untrained party members or secret police selected for their loyalty," said Azim who graduated from the Law Faculty of Kabul University in 1964 and worked nearly 20 years as a lawyer and judge.

"The judges are not neutral, they are there to carry out the wishes of the state," Azim said. The accused has no right to an attorney although he may speak on his own behalf.

"Theoretically he may call witnesses to testify for him, but in Afghanistan who will dare to testify against the government?" Azim asked.

Revolutionary justice can be quick, he said. Most cases are decided in two or three sessions.

Torture a Routine Part of System

Torture has become a routine part of the system, Azim said. "Anyone who is suspected gets at least a week or two of torture and if police

cannot find anything they let them go. "I have not seen the torture myself, but I have seen the evidence of it many times — fingernails torn off, cigarette burns all over the body," he said.

All trials are secret, but special cases are filmed and given wide publicity to reinforce the message of obedience, he said.

Party loyalists are brought in to act the part of the audience in the films.

"When a death sentence is announced they clap on cue," Azim said.

"The Soviets want to make the revolutionary courts into a symbol of terror so no one will dare to disobey the government," he said.

However, the judges themselves fear assassination and stand-ins are used when the trials are filmed, he said.

Although Soviet advisers help run the new legal system, the thousands of Soviet experts, diplomats and soldiers in Afghanistan are not subject to it.

Azim said Soviet citizens frequently have been accused of serious crimes — including murdering other Russians, but said he could not recall even one case where a Soviet was tried, much less convicted, in an Afghan court.

25 June 1985

AFGHANISTAN

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION BASED ON LAND, WATER REFORM

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 1 Apr 85 p 2

[Text] In our dear revolutionary Afghanistan, the implementation of the democratic land and water reforms is the most significant and basic issue of the national and democratic revolution of Sawr and its victorious development. With its implementation, not only will conditions be more favorable for growth in the powers of production, but it will also play a very important and valuable role in strengthening the revolutionary organizations and the authority of the government.

The economy of our country, which, as a result of the inhumane and regressive policies of previous regimes, is based on agriculture, agricultural production and husbandry, will only grow and attain greater strength when the old production relationships are eliminated and favorable conditions are established for the growth of productive powers through revolutionary changes in agriculture and solving the problem of land. The only way to achieve this aspiration is indeed the implementation of the democratic land and water reforms based on the limitation of large holdings, free distribution of land by the government to peasants with little or no land. This began with the splendid victory of the Sawr revolution, and with the victory of the new evolutionary stage of the Sawr revolution, great and valuable steps have been taken for basic advancement in this area. On the basis of available statistics, from the beginning of the implementation of the democratic land and water reforms in the country until the month of Jadi of last year [22 Dec 1984 - 20 Jan 1985] a total of 683,422 acres of top-quality land or the equivalent were directly distributed to 313,792 rural families with little or no land.

Another important and valuable aspect of the democratic land and water reforms is the extensive work which we are doing to solve the problems arising from high prices by organizing farmers into agricultural cooperatives, rural councils, village committees for water users, revolutionary defense groups, and other people's and revolutionary organizations.

Thus, besides the fact that the democratic land and water reforms are in the interest of farmers with little or no land, at the same time it increases the power of the popularly-controlled government as much as possible. Every piece of land distributed to rural people is a new stone in the

barricade of defense for the revolution and its life-building attainments. The implementation of the democratic land and water reforms creates the most favorable conditions for strengthening governmental power throughout the country, and it must be so. Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA and President of the Revolutionary Council commented on the democratic land and water reforms at a meeting of the Joint Commission of the Central Committee of the PDPA and the Council of Ministers of the DRA [Democratic Republic of Afghanistan], and said:

The implementation of land and water reforms must occur in conjunction with other serious issues of the revolution such as the establishment of security, the conditions of normal life for the citizens, and strengthening the government's power in the hinterlands. For this reason, wherever the land reform is being implemented it is necessary that intensive work be done to establish self-defense groups, provide financial, material, and technical assistance to farmers, to mobilize citizens, including farmers in social organizations, to revitalize bridges, roads and libraries, and to provide the people with other necessary services.

9310

CSO: 4665/75

AFGHANISTAN

SUGAR PRODUCTION REACHES 671,350 TONS

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 27 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] The 45th sugar production campaign of Baghlan sugar-cube factory ended on the first of Hut [20 Feb 1985].

In this campaign through utilization of 5,673.038 tons of sugar beets, 271.35 tons of white sugar, the equivalent of 13,427 50-kilogram cases, were produced according to international standards.

The above statement was made by Asadi, general manager of Light Industry Production in the Ministry of Light Industries and Foodstuffs. In answer to a question from HEYWAD's correspondent regarding the sugar production campaign, he said:

Through last year's campaign, despite difficulties and sabotage by counter-revolutionaries on the sugar-beet farms, the Baghlan sugar-cube company was able to produce twice as much sugar as last year through the tireless persistence of its workers and around-the-clock efforts by officials.

It must be noted that in 1362 [21 March 1983 - 20 March 1984] Baghlan sugar-cube factory produced 321.1 tons of sugar.

With regard to the assistance and facilities provided to the sugar-beet farmers by the revolutionary party and government the source said:

By order of the revolutionary party and government, so as to strengthen the foundations of the economy, raise sugar-beet production, and improve living conditions for farmers the price paid to farmers for sugar-beets was raised by 40 percent.

Support payment to sugar-beet farmers, which was formerly 600 afghanis per acre, was raised to 1,800 afghanis per acre. In addition, farmers with debts remaining from previous years have been authorized to repay them in three-year installments.

Likewise, more than 30 tons of improved sugar-beet seeds worth 1,215,800 afghanis have been distributed gratis to farmers.

9310
CSO: 4665/75

AFGHANISTAN

CULTURAL CHANGES MAKE LITERACY ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 21 Apr 85 pp 2, 5

[Text] One of the major reasons for the backwardness of our society has been illiteracy among the masses of millions in the country. During the past half century, on the basis of the treacherous policies of the counter-cultural family of Al-e Yahya, 95 percent of the men and 98 percent of the women in the country were deprived of literacy. In order to continue their Satanic and anti-people rule during the dark history of the period in our country when they were in power, the oppressors and unjust rulers had intentionally kept the masses of our country in the dark through their anti-cultural policies, in order to prevent the growth and promotion of the alert understanding of the people of the world's events and the realization of the nature of the anti-people regimes. Through this policy, they were able to impose their dark domination over our people for more than half a century.

Comrade Babrak Karmal, the general secretary of the central committee of the PDPA and the head of the revolutionary council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, in the 15th plenum of the PDPA central committee, said concerning the situation with regard to education in our country:

"The education of the masses and carrying out the duties related to the political carriage of justice with regard to them must be implemented in various ways and forms. Unswerving consideration for the interests of the laborers is not only one of the important forms of gaining people's trust, but is also the essential duty of every true revolution. Taking into consideration the national and religious traditions and customs of the people in order to increase the effects of the lofty ideology of the masses and attract them toward

building a new Afghanistan is one of the effective methods of implementing mass political work among the various strata of the people."

Concerning the spread of literacy and the duties of the government in this area, the essential principles of the DRA state:

"The policy of the DRA in the area of social, educational and cultural development is based on strengthening unity among the patriotic workers, farmers, nomads, intellectuals, businessmen, merchants, clergy, all the democratic and patriotic forces of the country, and all the nationalities, ethnic groups and tribes of Afghanistan, as well as the elimination of the remnants of feudal and pre-feudal relationships, backwardness, unemployment, illiteracy, poverty and illness and raising the material and cultural level of every family. For this purpose, certain programs will be implemented on a continuous basis to totally eliminate illiteracy and vastly develop learning, social health and security, science, technology, culture, art, physical education and sports and living conditions."

With the victory of the national, democratic Sawr revolution, especially in its new, evolutionary stage, such disorganization and injustice was put to an end. With the victory of the Sawr revolution, the seventh anniversary of which our people are celebrating, as important changes have occurred in other areas of the lives of the laboring people of the country, one of these changes and humane steps by the national and democratic revolution under the leadership of the PDPA is that for all the children and laborers of the country, without consideration for the linguistic, ethnic and national differences, the acquisition of knowledge has become accessible in a true sense.

Since the Sawr revolution, particularly in its new, evolutionary stage, due to the growth and development of the literacy movement and in order to totally eliminate illiteracy on the basis of Articles 24 and 26 of the Constitution of the DRA, a series of fruitful steps have been studied to achieve this great task and are underway in accordance with the plans of the scholars, with consideration for the desirable traditions, customs and religious beliefs of the free people of the country.

With the directives and guidance of the PDPA, headed by comrade Babrak Karmal, the issue of the growth and development of the literacy movement has become a public affair and, at present, the wave of the literacy movement has spread throughout the country.

This edict of the revolution is advancing in a fundamental manner in the government establishments and offices, in the farmer and agricultural cooperatives in various regions and in the divisions of the armed forces.

In the ninth plenum of the central committee of the PDPA, comrade Babrak Karmal, the secretary general of the central committee of the PDPA and head of the revolutionary council of the DRA, said:

"One of the primary duties is to eliminate illiteracy. The revolution must enlighten people with knowledge. It cannot be otherwise."

Because of the deep concern and attention of the revolutionary party and government to the total elimination of illiteracy among the citizens of the county, the director of literacy was able in the course of seven years since the revolution to make 1,100,000 of the compatriots literate. At present, there are 20,000 literacy courses active throughout the country, in which 380,000 of the compatriots are enthusiastically and voluntarily learning and being taught by 21,000 tenured, hired, hourly and volunteer teachers.

According to a responsible source, in order to totally eliminate illiteracy, the literacy director intends to have 400,000 of the newly eligible compatriots engage in literacy courses.

Our brave people advance the light of literacy and knowledge, which is the fruit of the great Sawr revolution, to illuminate the entire country, and in the limitless rays of this light, darkness will be eliminated. Then the Satan of illiteracy and its roots will be destroyed altogether.

10,000
CSO: 4665/85

AFGHANISTAN

LAND, WATER GIVEN GRATIS TO FARMERS

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 21 Apr 85 p 4

[Text] Our beloved homeland, proud, free, revolutionary Afghanistan, has been mainly an agricultural country, with 85 percent of its inhabitants engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry. Now, more than 50 percent of the national revenues of our country consist of agricultural and animal husbandry products. Given this situation, both the fundamental changes and the area of cultivation and farming must be directed in the interest of the majority of the laborers of our country, which is fortunately the case, because with the victory of the magnificent Sawr revolution, the seventh year of which we are now on the threshold of celebrating, the plan and implementation of fundamental changes in the area of agriculture are underway through the implementation of the democratic land reforms on the basis of limiting large land ownership and the distribution of free land to the farmers with little or no land as the most essential duty and central to the revolutionary changes in the country by carrying out decree No 8 of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA concerning land. The victory of the new, evolutionary phase of the Sawr revolution has prepared the ground for the rapid and fundamental advancement of these reforms along with correcting a series of mistakes that have taken place in this area.

So far, for 315,176 deserving farming families with little or no land, 684,540 hectares of land have been distributed throughout the country. A total of 70,332 hectares of prime land has been distributed for 53,503 farming and land owning families, land deeds have been distributed, and 600 village farmers' councils as well as 684 farmers' committees have received water and have begun their activities. In order to rebuild the irrigation systems, the offices of revitalization have been created in the central zone (Kabul), the northern zone (Mazar-e Sharif), the southwestern zone (Helmand), and the northeastern zone (Konduz). Irrigation offices in most provinces and 17 districts have been established and in 69 operational land reform groups, the irrigation agents have been active. As a result of their

activities, the deeds for water rights have been distributed among more than 24,500 farm families. In coordination with advancing the democratic land and water reforms, the revolutionary government pays overall attention to helping the farmers in the country. It is determined to distribute among the farmers throughout the country during the course of this year alone 119,000 tons of chemical fertilizers, 15,000 tons of wheat seed, and 70 million afghanis worth of agricultural and animal husbandry pesticides along with sufficient bank credit. In the same way, much effort is being made to provide widespread mechanized services for the farmers in the country, in addition to expanding and increasing the activities of the mechanized agricultural systems of the Provinces of Kabul, Baghlan, Herat, Balkh, and Jowzjan and the secondary units of the Provinces of Konduz, Farah, Ghazni and Samangan in the Provinces of Helmand and Nangarhar as well as starting the operation of two new mechanized units to help farmers during the current year.

In this manner, by realizing the great importance of organizing the farmers in the agricultural cooperatives, the revolutionary government provides a great deal of aid to unite the farmers more than ever before. Now, more than 1,367 farmers' cooperatives and 159 consumer and handicraft cooperative stores have been established and are operating in various parts of the country, organizing and benefitting immensely from the services of thousands of laboring farmers in the country.

"In the future, the revolutionary party and government will take every step possible to distribute water and land correctly and fairly in the country in the interest of farmers and all the people. At the same time, Islamic customs and regulations will be observed in connection with land and water distribution."

10,000
CSO: 4665/85

AFGHANISTAN

CONSTANT SUPERVISION TO CORRECT EDUCATION PROBLEMS

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Dari 20 Mar 85 p 3

/Text/ We are now in the middle of the third year of training and education for the party.

According to the resolution of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Party also in the current year the systematic instruction of the principles of scientific revolutionary theory and the basics of political knowledge have been taken into consideration for all interested individuals, the principal and the provisional members of the party. Likewise, to some cadres and those principal members of the party who have passed the primary instruction courses as regards the party, within the framework of the activists' schools, more esoteric or abstruse issues of the practical revolutionary theory will be taught. With regard to the interparty system of instructions, there are some very difficult and fundamental tasks such as equipping party members with the scientific revolutionary theory and the methods of application of the principles of this theory. Under the particular circumstances in our society, every effort should be made to realize the policies of the party as far as possible and assist the general public to have a better understanding of those principles and at the same time attract active participation of the toilers in the transformation of the revolution.

Our experience in the training and education years of 1361-62 /21 March 1982-20 March 1983/ and 1363-64 /21 March 1984 - 20 March 1985/ and the first half of the current year indicate that we are approaching the goals which were primarily set for the interparty instruction system, namely the instruction of the principles of scientific revolutionary theory and based on these principles, the instruction of the inevitable problems of the revolution, determination of the main duties, the recognition of the main link for the solution of the problems of political, social, economic and cultural life. Similarly, the level of understanding of the principal platform and organization of the party and the fundamentals of political knowledge and ideology have all been enhanced.

The important fact is that this system has been changed to an all-encompassing and all-inclusive system. In all the party's committees and organizations the instruction of the principal platforms and organization of the party and the principles of scientific revolutionary theory are never forgotten--even in the most difficult moments when facing the enemies and defending the revolution's

sovereignty in party assemblies of the military and civilian organizations. This is the only stable foundation which can support and reinforce the party's role of leadership, since experience has proven that the attainment of social progress and the elimination of class distinction is only possible through the medium of the party, which is equipped with a scientific revolutionary theory--and a party which has gone through tough times and enjoys the solidarity of its workers. Our party moves from a position where it deems that the scientific revolutionary theory works as an irreplaceable weapon for the proper and fruitful solution of the problems developed by society.

However, since this instruction in itself, this irreplaceable weapon is a natural critic and creator, one should not try to hide the difficulties related thereof. We ought to criticize the inadequacies and charge the committees with the responsibility to solve those deficiencies and always try to improve the lot of this unique foundation, that is the party.

Let's talk about the party organization of Lowgar Province. In this organization there are 330 principal and provisional members of the party who are active in 17 party units in this province in order to achieve and realize the goals of the party and the leadership of the revolutionary struggles of the masses. First of all we ought to answer the question regarding the inadequacy of the party and the small number of party units in this province. Strategically, this province has always been a passage route for our enemies, say from the period of the British colonialists. This was the route used by the colonialist agents who tried to vanquish the national uprising and the democratic movement of 1919 and began hatching plots against our national independence. Right now this artery is one of the most important passageways for the export of bandits and destructive weapons against the sovereignty of our revolution. The main occupation of the majority of the inhabitants of this province is farming and like other regions of the country these people have always had to endure a most disturbing and exasperating kind of poverty. In this region there were the least number of schools and even the least number of organizations or offices which were related to the period of monarchy. There was never an educational, cultural or industrial center in this region and even the feudalistic and bureaucratic regimes did not pay any attention to the only industrial project /Aynak Copper/ of this region. The limited number of educated people emigrated to the capital in order to get a job and the main inhabitants of the region continued to live as before, in absolute darkness and illiteracy.

The revolution which eliminated the heavy burden of slavery, subjugation and serfdom and the distribution of land among the farmers with little or no land, turned out to be a source of inspiration and hope for life. Notwithstanding all this, the first inroads by the enemies of the revolution from the Pakistani territory have left their unfavorable effects on the border region, particularly this province.

Considering the cultural history of this region, the few party members together with the few party branches all bespeak of a hopeful beginning toward the expansion of the influence of the party in the realm of revolutionary transformations and in enforcing the public belief in the righteousness of all these changes, thus mobilizing the masses for its defence.

Mohammad Asef, who is in charge of the instructional affairs, propaganda and propagation of the party's committee in Lowgar Province went on to say: "You can feel our difficulties better. Sudden attacks by the bandits on our villages and setting fire to the crops and shacks of their inhabitants and the escape of the enemy over the border all increases our problems.

There are two simultaneous alternatives at our disposal.

- Equipping the members of the party with the methods and the ideological principles of the party and continuous enhancement of their level of awareness.
- Attracting the confidence and the belief of the people and piquing their interest toward the expansion of the revolutionary transformations.

According to the resolution of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Party we have organized all our principal and provisional members of our party organization into 17 interparty instructional courses and activists' schools. In the instruction courses, according to the program of education and instruction for the year 1363-64 /1985 - 1986/ the principles of political education and the fundamentals of the principles of scientific revolutionary theory are taught.

Eighty percent of our instructors have finished both the party instruction courses which are offered within the country and abroad and they are very knowledgeable in their understanding of the course lessons. The continual control of the method of course instructions is the direct responsibility of our committee's operational bureau.

Simultaneously, with this operation, in order to make the general public aware of the revolutionary goals, we dispatch our mobile propaganda groups to various districts. Also health and medical teams accompany these groups. In the villages along their way these groups explain the policies and the platform of the party to the people through meetings and public gatherings. Likewise, the medical teams try to examine and treat the sick and distribute first-aid materials among the farmers' families.

Similarly, in order to explain the goals of the party and the revolutionary government and the method of attainment of these objectives in practice and encourage the participation of the toilers in the activities, the party committee extends an invitation to all the ethnic groups and the various tribal families of Lowgar Province. Until now there have been 35 extensive assemblies throughout the province with satisfactory results. For instance, in

the construction and repair of 60 kilometers of roads, the cleaning of ditches and streams and the formation of Farmers' Councils, the decisions presented in some of these assemblies have been very effective.

This experience, despite the treacherous geographical position of Lowgar and the few party office branches, in spite of the fact that so far all the possibilities and all the expedient policies have not effectively been utilized in order to secure adequate party discipline, and the level of demands from all the members of the party cannot in reality, meet the needs of the party, it opens the way for the party in every hamlet and village. For example, as a result of the depth and variety of problems which were facing Lowgar, the party's organization became a reality in this province. Since we are duty bound to ensure the strengthening of the party as the "key to all the problems" no matter under what condition and know that the strengthening of the party without proper reinforcement by the ideological foundations of the party is not possible. Additionally, though our interparty instructional system does not lack sufficient experience, yet once in a while it faces some inadequacies which are not so insignificant.

So far the level of effectiveness and the cogency of the experiences gathered through instructional courses does not seem quite satisfactory to the responsible organs; as yet there are some difficulties regarding the composition of the courses and the assignment of instructors throughout the Kabul city.

These inadequacies should be eliminated through continual and serious supervision over the functioning of the courses. We ought to enhance the level of the demands from both the students and the teachers and listen to the reports of the teachers in the meetings of the committee's operational bureau and where necessary, change the format of the course according to the level of understanding and readiness of the new members. We ought to use every means in order to make the interparty instruction ever more effective since for us the apprehension and digestion of our party's ideology and our faithfulness toward it and to proletarian internationalism, provides us with the proper grounds for the strengthening of our party. Furthermore, reinforcement of our party's influence and the enhancement of our revolution to an effective level would be necessary for the solidarity and unity of action of the party members.

12719

CSO: 4665/79

AFGHANISTAN

CITIZENS REPORTEDLY PLAY ROLE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Kabul ANIS in Dari 3 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] The victory of the Sawr revolution has opened a new and life-giving page in the life of the country's toiling masses. "In accordance with the laws of the growth of human society, our country has reached a new stage of evolution towards revolutionary rebuilding and revolutionary transformation." In accordance with the conditions of our new and revolutionary era, it is necessary that the wheels of all the plans and programs of the party and government revolve around the interests of the laboring masses, and that production and creative work take place to strengthen the growth of the revolution's foundations. Through the people's participation in local governmental administration, the bases of the revolution will grow deeper and broader in the masses, and the governmental power and the sovereignty of the toilers in the DRA will continually grow stronger. With the cooperation of the toilers and the support of the ethnic groups and tribes, the governmental power will expand and broaden throughout the country, and the path will be opened and paved toward victories and great successes. Prior to the Sawr revolution, the governmental power in the country represented the interests of a handful of feudalists, capitalists and corrupt bureaucrats, and this power worked against the interests of the great majority of society, whether farmers, workers, craftsmen, patriotic and progressive intellectuals or national and tribal minorities. In order to crush them it used every sort of negative and hostile means, and this caused the millions of toiling people to be afflicted by extreme poverty, disease, hunger and dozens of back-breaking and soul-crushing pangs and pains. The tyrannical mere handful enjoyed a fabulous and luxurious existence and such unfair circumstances intensified the class contradiction in our country. Upon the victory of the Sawr revolution and its new evolutionary phase, this disorganized state of affairs ended. Now that the revolution's caravan is rapidly following its path of evolution and progress, the machinations and plots of the enemies of the revolution and the nation cannot create any obstacles for the revolution's progress. Everyday the masses comprehend more fully the righteousness of the revolution and its life-giving achievements and they feel its positive and practical results directly. They come out to support the revolution and its glorious achievements and thus the people's power to realize the revolution's accomplishments is being concentrated in one direction.

Our revolutionary party and government has no objective other than the happiness and welfare of the masses and the elevation of the country. It is implementing its scientifically designed plans in all fields of life while keeping in view and ensuring the interest of the masses. Through the application of the democratic land and water reforms, which are moving forward rapidly, the feudal landholding relations are being destroyed from the roots. With the application of other developmental and progressive plans in the industrial, educational and economic sectors, etc., through the striking transformations and revolutionary changes appearing in all areas of life, and through coordination, the bases of the revolution in all sectors and areas of life are growing.

Our revolutionary party and government, with its popular nature and essence, believes in the mental and physical force and ability of the masses. It has prepared the field in such a way as to use the creative forces of the masses in the building of a new and progressive Afghanistan. It is for this reason that popular power is relied on in all fields and matters of life. With the provision of an opportunity for the toilers' participation in the construction of a prosperous Afghanistan, the governmental administrative power in the localities gains more and more importance because the revolution grows with the help of the work and revolutionary struggle of the toilers and the people's unsparing participation. This strengthens the bases of the revolution in our society. We can clearly observe the results of the people's participation in the building of the country and the revolution's victory. One must say that it is the masses cooperation on the one hand, which brings about success on the production front and on the other hand, the struggle to crush the enemies of the nation, people and revolution grows more intense and that each day a new path towards the success and victory of the country's million-fold masses is opened. Through the strengthening of the governmental administrative authority in the localities, governmental power will be turned over to the local organs for "the solution of all administrative problems of special local importance--whether of economic growth, the elimination of illiteracy, the growth of public health, the improvement of living and working conditions for all toiling groups, the ensuring of the equality, the strengthening of unity and fraternal friendship between the ethnic groups and tribes, the securing of democratic law, security and tranquillity, etc." Naturally, in accordance with the policy of the party and government, the governmental authority in the localities will be specially strengthened by attracting the cooperation of the toilers in popular affairs, the road towards progress will be opened and paved, the ability of the people to build a self-reliant Afghanistan will develop in practice, and the welfare of the people and the country's progress will be ensured and secured in every way.

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CSO: 4665/67

AFGHANISTAN

WOMEN PLAYING MAJOR ROLE IN COOPERATIVES

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 3 Mar 85 pp 4,7

[Text] The victorious Saur revolution, particularly its new and evolutionary stage, has realized the long-standing and historic desires of the country's toiling women who for many years have shouldered the heavy load of economic, political, legal and social deprivation. This aspiration was that of women's complete legal equality with men, which today has been ensured in all the economic, political, and social fields. The realization of this great and vital matter has opened up vast fields for the active participation of the country's heroic and toiling women in economic and social affairs to rebuild our society.

At present, in fact, the country's toiling and heroic women are active in many production fields, economic networks, scientific and educational matters, social organizations and so on.

For example, a number of toiling and heroic women have assumed a notable responsibility in the capital, provinces and districts across the nation in the cooperative movement.

Today, there are 2,383 women cooperative members. The Shabnam sewing handicrafts cooperative has 12 members, the Vakhmak Duzigol sewing cooperative has 18 members, the rug-weaving handicrafts cooperative in Qazaq in Helmand Province has 17 members, the Same'ah Shahid weaving cooperative in Konarah Province has 28 members, and the rug-weaving, gelim weaving, needlework and chessboard-weaving cooperatives in Jalghar Badakhshan has 13 women members. A number of women are also active in the Barikut leather industries cooperative.

The activities and handicrafts production of these cooperatives perform a constructive role in the growth of the country's industry and economy. Their production has numerous customers both at home and abroad and their level of production, capital, their shares and destinations of sale are continually developing.

The PDPA and the DRA government has always supported and continues to support these cooperatives. The government has offered them loans, customs and transport facilities and so on in a determined and effective manner.

Furthermore, women are active in many cooperative stores and cooperative economic sections and administrative branches. Recently, a number of our country's young women have been studying in the cooperative field at the Cooperative Faculty of the PDPA Central Committee's Social Sciences Institute and at cooperative training institutes and institutions in the friendly country of the Soviet Union. In future they will be a source of service to the country's farmers and toilers as young and experienced cooperative personnel, and will share a notable role in the expansion and development of the country's cooperative movement.

All the women who are members and employees of the DRA's farmers cooperatives union in addition to their active share in the country's economic, social and political affairs many are also combat members of the Women's Democratic Organization and are heroically struggling to realize the goals of the PDPA and the lofty ideals of the Saur revolution. The role of women who are members and employees of the cooperatives is outstanding in the defense of the Saur revolution, in the struggle against illiteracy, and support for international women's solidarity in order to defend world peace and security.

The victorious growth of the cooperative movement in our country and the share of women in these movements opens up the vast panorama of a greater participation and broader activity by women in the shining future of this movement aimed at raising the living conditions of the farmers and toilers and the building of a new society.

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CSO: 4665/64

AFGHANISTAN

GULBAHAR TEXTILE COMPANY SHOWS 59 PERCENT INCREASE

Kabul HEYWAD in Dari 3 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] During the first ten months of the year the Gulbahar textile plant produced 8,954,000 meters of fabric which shows a 59 percent increase over the same period of 1983-1984.

This fact was given to HEYWAD'S correspondent by an informed source who added: The Gulbahar textile plant's foundation was laid in the Gulbahar area in the Kapisa Province in 1953. After the completion of construction and assembly of machinery, it began productive activity in 1960.

The plant's basic shops are spinning, weaving and dyeing. Its auxiliary shops include electricity, steam, repair, a laboratory, and a refinery. Its productions are composed of dyed taffeta and solid-colored, striped and patterned printed cotton.

During the 26 years of its productive activity, the Gulbahar textile plant has provided valuable services to our dear citizens.

The plant's productive work is divided into three shifts. Practically all the workers in the Gulbahar plant are members of the trade union, and 95 of them have been organized in the self-defense group which heroically defends the factory.

In order to create facilities and raise the living standard of workers, residential houses, a hospital, and boys' and girls' schools have been built at the factory. Furthermore a womens' discussion room, a childrens' play room and a friendship room have been built.

In conclusion, he said: In honor of the twentieth anniversary of the PDPA founding, several fund-raising volunteer work was organized which brought the revolutionary government an enormous sum of income.

In order to raise the level of production and encourage the workers, the sum of 500 afghanis is given to the best workers as a bonus in each production branch every month.

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CSO: 4665/64

AFGHANISTAN

LAND DEEDS DISTRIBUTED TO 600 FARMERS

Kabul ANIS in Dari 6 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] The day before yesterday 600 landless farmers and farmers with small holdings in the Darqod sub-district of Takhar Province became landowners.

In a ceremony attended by hundreds of farmers and toilers from the sub-district, which continued the implementation of the second stage of democratic land reforms, the Takhar governor distributed land deeds to 600 farmers with no land or with small holdings from the Darqod sub-district.

In the ceremony, Janiqol, chief of the Farmers' Council of Takhar Province, representing the farmers there, promised every sort of cooperation in implementing the process of democratic land reforms and realizing the ideals of the revolutionary party and government.

Furthermore, in a ceremony 110 farmers without land or with small holdings from the Sorkhrud district of Nangarhar Province obtained land deeds recently.

A source connected with the Office of Democratic Land and Water Reforms of Nangarhar Province reported that 209 jaribs of land were distributed gratis to 75 families of farmers with no land or small holdings in that district, and they were given land deeds.

In the meeting which was held on this occasion in that district, Hazratgol, chief of the Amrkhayl Village Farmers' Council, and some of the farmers who had received a land deed while representing others, promised that they were prepared for every sort of work and revolutionary battle to defend the achievements of the Saur revolution and to raise the level of agricultural production.

At the end of the party twenty tons of chemical fertilizer were distributed to the land holders and farmers of that district.

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CSO: 4665/64

AFGHANISTAN

GROWTH OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES SINCE REVOLUTION EXAMINED

Kabul ANIS in Dari 28 Mar 85 pp 1-3

/Text/ The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the PDPA and the Council of Ministers of the DRA point out that the successful solution to the issues which have been discussed in the action program and the principles of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan by the PDPA and the government of the DRA, and also according to the suggestions, hints and cues from the statements made by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council as regards the growth of material and cultural lives of the people, the provision of continually improved medical services and public health in general plays the most significant role in this process.

As a result of the inhumane policies of the reactionary regimes of the past, until the advent of the Saur revolution, masses of millions of toiling people were deprived of health services. Nondevelopment of the nation's health service to the required level had put our country at the lowest level of international health standards.

Under the leadership of the party and the revolutionary government after the victory of the revolution, some fundamental and important steps toward the growth of public health and the provision of improved hygienic services have been put into effect. The public health laws have been implemented in the DRA, the network of health institutions have increased, the number of beds in the hospitals have increased more than 80 percent and there has been a 45 percent increase in the number of doctors.

Some of the prevention and treatment institutions are harnessed with medical accouterments and furnishings and there are experienced cadres working and carrying out their duties there.

The financial aid to public clinics will be increased, health centers will be built, and in most of the industrial and educational institutions maternity centers will be expanded. There will be an increase in the provision and preparation of medicines for hospitals and pharmacies, and blood will be provided free of charge to those who are in need of it.

For the first time the sanitary and epidemiological services have been provided in the country. In the city of Kabul, a medical emergency center has been opened, the government Medical Institute of Kabul has been established and the Scientific Society of Doctors of the DRA has been formed.

In order to receive patients during non-office hours in Kabul hospitals, maternity centers and other relevant institutions throughout the city in the last quarter of the year 1363 /21 March 1984 - 20 March 1985/ have been properly equipped with adequate medical equipment and medical personnel teams which are comprised of highly educated members and some medium-level professionals.

For the purpose of improving child care health services, 20 maternity hospitals have been created in the city of Kabul with one government hospital for children. Each year more than one million vaccines for the entire population of the country is distributed.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the PDPA and the Council of Ministers of the DRA also point out that despite the existing accomplishments and the success of certain attainments, the growth of public health throughout the country is slow and as far as the needs and ever-increasing demands of the country is concerned, this enterprise is far behind. The main reason for such inadequacy is that the resolution of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Council of Ministers of the DRA regarding the formation and strengthening of public health fundamentals, the improvement of the provision of health services for the people, particularly the provision of health services for women, children and their mothers by the Ministry of Public Health and other ministries and departments of the DRA, party committees, local organs and all the related government departments in the provinces are not duly implemented.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Public Health of the DRA and its relevant organs throughout the nation have not taken proper measures to fight contagious and communicable diseases and the matter of establishing or organizing a diagnostic system equipped with laboratories and medical technology is not duly pursued. Proper decisions are not made to improve the activities and conditions of the treatment and preventive care center and to make medical services available to the people; moreover, adequate attention is not paid to the correct use or completion of medical institutions as far as clinical assistance is concerned.

Likewise, proper attention is not given to the sanitary situation throughout the cities and habitable neighborhoods, hospitals, polyclinics, schools and industrial institutions by the Ministry of Public Health, other ministries, party committees' departments, social organizations and Kabul's local and municipal authorities.

Seriously the people throughout the country are faced with a shortage of potable water and in many areas the surface and subterranean waters are polluted by impure and dirty waters. In most of the provinces there is no sanitary,

epidemiological or bacteriological laboratories. Transfer and distribution of sufficient medicines throughout the nation is not satisfactory and there is no control over the price or the method of sale.

By the same token, there are deficiencies in the formation of proper organization and provision of medical help in productive institutions, schools and kindergartens; while the present system of house-calls for patients and the creation of medical emergency assistance in the towns and villages also face serious shortages.

There are certain inadequacies facing the growth and expansion of maternity hospitals, children's health care centers, and institutions dealing with contagious and tubercular diseases. Still, the hospitals throughout the provinces are functioning under or below capacity and full use is not made of the existing beds. Most of the health centers which have been destroyed by the savage counterrevolutionaries have yet to be revitalized and the present active health centers are lacking sufficient medical cadres.

Additionally, no serious decisions have been made to establish governmental pharmacies, centers for the preparation and production of medicines, particularly disinfectants or antiseptics, vaccines and similar products.

As regards familiarizing and educating the general public with sanitary environments, particularly in the provinces, subprovinces or villages, the efforts are not adequate. Likewise, the hygienic policies are not adapted in an orderly fashion among the public health employees, students, professors and university students. Also proper attention is not paid to the creation of a normal social condition for medical personnel. Other ministries and departments of the DRA do not participate in the activities of the Ministry of Public Health of the DRA, particularly in the area of the prevention of contagious or other communicable diseases which can be transmitted in the work environment.

The performance of assigned duties regarding the registration of births and deaths leaves a lot to be desired. Similarly, the dispatch of medical cadres to districts, subdistricts and hamlets is carried out in a very disorderly way and seldom happens.

Medical educational institutions do not impart the necessary public health knowledge to the specialized individuals, particularly the medical cadre who act as go-betweens.

As a result of the spread of infectious and communicable diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria, some forms of indigestion and stomach disorders, trachoma, typhoid, diphtheria, tetanus or addiction to narcotics and alcohol, and so forth a lot of deaths will occur, especially the death of young children and mothers.

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the PDPA and the Council of Ministers of the DRA with regard to the future growth of public health and improvement, prevention and protection of public health hereby approves that:

- The government Planning Committee, the Ministry of Public Health, other ministries and departments of the DRA, party committees, local organs, social organizations and all government institutions should consider the adoption and implementation of an extensive government program for the years 1364 - 1369 /21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986 to 21 March 1990 - 20 March 1991/ which concerns certain specified areas which are mentioned below as one of their basic social and political duties.
- Improvement and growth of the provision of future health services, primarily the protection of the general public against diseases, so that health services which are provided by the government will be put at the disposal of the people of Afghanistan.
- Extension and expansion of networks of health institutions, particularly in the villages.
- Creation of health institutions with medical personnel and professional cadres.
- Expansion of future gratis medical help.
- Reinforcement or strengthening of the material and technical base of hygienic services.
- Provision of adequate medicine for the people with due regard to an orderly production and distribution system.
- Creation of suitable systems for the improvement of the quality of treatment aids and preventive medicine for the people, particularly the young children of the country and mothers.
- Growth and expansion of primary and secondary health centers.
- Fight against contagious and communicable diseases in order to control their spread.
- Creation of dispensaries for the public, especially women, young children, mothers, workers and employees of industrial, agricultural and governmental organizations.
- All the ministries and the departments of the DRA, party committees, social organizations, Kabul Municipality, local organs and governmental offices should study the existing conditions with regard to the adaptation of the tasks and duties which have been considered for public health in the resolution of the

People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the government of the DRA for a period of one month and take practical steps in eliminating the inadequacies and accordingly implement the suggestions put forth in the resolution.

- The Ministry of Public Health of the DRA is charged with the following duties:

A- The government Planning Committee of the DRA jointly with the Ministry of Justice of the DRA, other ministries and relevant departments, party committees, local organs and governmental offices will discuss and make the necessary plans regarding the following specific areas and propose them to the Council of Ministers of the DRA:

- Expedient plans regarding the improvement of the situation in sanitary and epidemiological centers in the country with a view to the fact that the creation of these centers in various zones and provinces which are supposed to get such facilities could be finished by 1364 and 1365.

- Design and adaptation of national programs in order to solve the main public health problems of the nation during the years 1364 - 1369.

- Adopting solutions to the problems regarding the protection and safety of the child and mother in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

- Adopting rules to control production and distribution of medicines throughout the country.

- Adopting rules regarding the establishment of government health centers in private and semi-private institutions, and the standardization of the rules for the medical cadres which will be performing their duties in these institutions.

- Adopting rules regarding the regular and systematic control of the work performance in the nation's health institutions.

- Creation of new measures to revitalize the hospitals, the primary and subsidiary health centers /which have been destroyed by the counterrevolutionary elements/ in the cities, towns and villages.

B- Completing and furnishing the treatment and preventive medical care centers with the necessary medical accouterments and instruments, and providing them with the indispensable medicines, doctors and medium-level medical personnel during the period 1364 - 1369.

- In order to provide emergency treatment and preventive care, sanitary and epidemiological centers in the districts, subdistricts and villages throughout the country in the years 1364 - 1366, the mobile medical brigades should be organized according to the annual plans for the provinces.

- Increase the power of the authorities and the relevant personnel of the central operation headquarters for reorganizing the treatment and preventive care centers and make them able to cope with the level of demands to improve the quality of their health-related responsibilities. Likewise, appropriate measures should be taken to improve the selection process and effective promotion and enhancement of the performance of the duties of the medical cadres in the relevant institutions, particularly in the ambulatory, gynecology and pediatrics polyclinics, sanitary and epidemiological centers.

C- In a joint endeavor with the Ministry of Education, other ministries and departments of the DRA, party committees, local organs and government offices proper measures should be taken to increase the level of the teachers' responsibility regarding children's hygiene and sanitary education. Likewise, steps should be taken in order to establish and expand health centers and enhance the necessary conditions for technical sanitary centers in the kindergartens and schools and to improve the treatment and preventive care and assistance to the children who attend these centers.

- Securing a better growth for the medical-assistance network centers in the industrial, educational and cooperatives and similarly providing them with the necessary cadres, medical instruments and furnishings. Other ministries and government departments with proper agreement from the Ministry of Public Health of the DRA as regards the above-stated goals will provide suitable quarters equipped with proper equipment and furnishings and take appropriate and active measures in the preparation of medicines, and medical accouterments. In a like manner, they should support the activities of the health institutions which are serving the employees of these relevant organizations. Similarly, the party committee should provide supervision and control the transfer of assistance and organizing of the affairs.

D- In a joint effort with the government Planning Committee and the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education of the DRA within Kabul's governmental medical institute, establish the pediatrics college in 1364 and in 1366 the sanitary and hygienic college should be established.

- More attention should be given to accepting local cadres for higher and medium-level medical institutions.

- In a joint venture with the Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education of the DRA and the Ministry of Education of the DRA the educational programs of high school students and the students of the higher education institutions should be planned based on medical knowledge and experimentally be put into operation in 1365. In a like fashion, the program of study of Kabul's University, the Pedagogic and the Polytechnic Institutes of Kabul should include medical instruction courses as of 1364.

- For the purpose of complete and effective utilization of the funds which are assigned by international and other organizations to implement medical

programs and train medical cadres, necessary decisions should be made; and likewise regular effort should be made so that such aids can be increased.

- With an eye to improving the performance of the Medical Scientific Society of the DRA and expanding the relations of this society with similar societies in brotherly socialist countries and other friendly nations, the appropriate decisions regarding the enhancement of the doctors' level of performance should be made and put into effect.

- The government Planning Committee of the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Public Works of the DRA and Kabul's Municipality should foresee the following issues in the social and economic growth plan of the DRA for the years 1364 and 1365:

- Construction of four blocks for a tuberculosis hospital, a maternity ward, a hospital for contagious diseases and a center for the treatment of invalids. In addition, study the production of house-building factories which utilize the new design for the construction of schools and dormitories /two 600-students schools and two 200-unit dorms/.

- Making up for lost time in the construction of the Central Polyclinic of Kabul city, the blood bank of Kabul city, the 200-bed hospital of Herat and revitalization of the health centers throughout the provinces of the country.

The Ministry of Public Health of the DRA, Kabul's Municipality, party committees, local organs and government offices are dutybound to:

- Take proper measures for the expansion of the network of governmental pharmacies in the city of Kabul and other provinces of the country. At least one regularly active governmental pharmacy should be established in each province beginning in 1364; to this end, there should be 13 governmental pharmacies. During 1365-1369 there should be at least 90 new governmental pharmacies established throughout Kabul and other provinces.

- The Ministry of Public Health of the DRA should provide the governmental pharmacies with the necessary equipment and medicines and complete their required number of medical personnel.

- From the beginning of the year 1364 the Kabul Municipality, the local organs and government offices should put fairly usable quarters for establishing pharmacy stores at the disposal of the Ministry of the Public Health of the DRA; moreover, for the purpose of building new governmental pharmacies they should also provide the abovementioned ministry with parcels of land in suitable communities.

The Defense and Transport Ministries of the DRA and the General Civil Aviation Department of the DRA should provide comprehensive help to the Ministry of

Public Health for the transport of medical employees and the transportation of medicines, vaccines and equipment for institutions in charge of treatment and preventive care.

- The government Planning Committee and the Ministry of Commerce of the DRA should take practical and speedy measures to provide as much dry milk as possible for infants, poverty-stricken and indigent families in the city of Kabul and other provinces of the country. And they should take proper measures to increase the dry milk quota of the Ministry of Public Health of the DRA to an equivalent amount of 50 tons from the beginning of the year 1364.

Regarding the issues which require a government's resolution, proper proposals should be made to the Council of Ministers of the DRA.

- The Ministry of Higher and Vocational Education of the DRA and the Ministry of Public Health of the DRA in a joint effort with relevant authorities should investigate the matter of training medical cadres with high and medium levels of education both inside the country and abroad during the years 1364-1369 with due regard to the increasing needs of public health and present their proposals to the Council of Ministers of the DRA.

- The government Planning Committee of the DRA and the Ministries of Mines and Industries and Public Health of the DRA should study the possibility of producing the necessary amount of antiseptics required for the public health and sanitation during the first quarter of 1364 and present their specific proposals on the matter to the Council of Ministers of the DRA.

- The Ministries of Communications, Electrical Energy, Irrigation and Water Resources, and Transport of the DRA in a joint effort with the Ministry of Public Health of the DRA should take proper measures to provide the centers which are assigned to the health of women and children (pediatrics and gynecology wards) with telephones, electricity, motorized transport and sufficient quantity of drinking water and implement their decisions within six months.

- The government Planning Committee, the Ministries of Irrigation and Water Resources, Public Works, and the Public Health of the DRA in a joint effort with the municipalities and the government departments of the provinces should take proper steps for the improvement and provision of drinking water for the inhabitants of the cities and villages of the country through the excavation and construction of deep wells, pumping stations, networks of water distribution and canals. Similarly, they should foresee the necessary refining facilities for the social and economic growth plans of the DRA for the year 1364 and the following years; it is understood that the party committees will practically aid and control the process of execution of the measures stated above.

- In order to improve the utilization of the existing equipment and network of water distribution and canals, the Municipality of Kabul and other municipalities are dutybound in 1364 within the framework of the responsibilities

of municipalities to provide protection, and utilization services for the networks stated above. In order to prevent stagnant waters from pollution by the sewers or polluted waters from industrial or economic outlets, the necessary measures should be made and presented for approval to the public health organs no later than the 22d of June 1985.

The Ministry of Public Health of the DRA and its sanitary and epidemiological centers in various communities should control the implementation of sanitary measures throughout the provinces and cities of the country, and they should deal with those individuals who violate the execution of the aforementioned measures according to the law.

- For the purposes of increasing the effectiveness of the fight against diseases common to both men and animals and preventing the recurrence of such diseases, the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform of the DRA should in 1364 take additional steps to put these measures into effect continually.
- The government Planning Committee of the Ministries of Finance, Public Health and the government Committee of Work and Social Security of the DRA should take proper steps regarding the following measures:
 - Implementation of the provision of free health-related ambulatory, polyclinic and in-patient services for all the people.
 - Improving provision of facilities and health-related equipment for relevant institutions.
 - Financially rewarding and encouraging medical employees who are serving in such professional areas as x-ray, physiotherapy, maternity wards, medical emergency aids, sanitary and epidemiological centers.
 - Establishment of medical cadres throughout the provinces and improvement of their living conditions. All the proposals regarding the above-mentioned measures should be prepared together with the social and economic and government budgetary plans for the year 1364 in conjunction with the basic plans for economic and social growth of the DRA for the years 1365-1369 and duly presented to the Council of Ministers.
- All the ministries and government departments of the DRA in a joint effort with the Central Council of the Guild Unions of the DRA together with the responsible officials of institutions should take proper sanitary and preventive measures regarding the health and hygienic issues concerning all the workers, employees and particularly their women workers and younger employees. Likewise, they should take steps regarding the accidents which could happen in the course of production work and properly coordinate their efforts with the medical organs and institutions in order to execute the treatment, preventive, sanitary and anti-epidemiological measures.

- In order to coordinate the activities of the Ministries of Public Health with those of other ministries, departments and institutions of the DRA as regards the provision of treatment, preventive, sanitary and anti-epidemiological services for women and children, the Council of Ministers of the DRA under the guidance of the deputy to the Council of Ministers, should create the Council of Coordination with the participation of the representatives from other ministries and government departments of the DRA for the protection of mother and child.

- The government Planning Committee and the Ministry of Finance of the DRA should foresee the following issues:

- In a joint effort with the Ministry of Public Health of the DRA and other ministries and relevant departments, proper measures regarding the social, economic and government budgetary plans for the year of 1364 and the following years should be taken; likewise, in conjunction with the basic plans for economic and social growth of the DRA for the years 1365-1369 and for the implementation of the duties outlined in the resolution, proper steps should be considered. In this regard priority should be given to the construction of new projects which are related to public health.

- The Ministries of Public Health, Defense, Foreign Affairs and the General Department of Government Information Services of the DRA in a joint effort with the government Planning, Work and Social Security Committees, the Ministries of Higher and Vocational Education, Justice and other ministries and relevant departments of the DRA for the purpose of improving the provision of health services for the relatives of the armed forces personnel and the people who become injured in the line of duty as a result of fulfilling the wishes of the Sawr revolution, and furthermore, for the educational growth of the medical cadres for the armed forces of the DRA, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the General Department of Government Information Services of the DRA should draw up the expedient policies and present the necessary proposal to the Council of Ministers in three months.

- The government radio-TV and cinematography committee, all the newspapers and periodicals of the Central Province and other provinces and all the means of public media in a joint effort with the Ministry of Public Health of the DRA should reinforce and propagate information regarding hygienic issues and the proper observance of its rules among the people, particularly the women, children and the inhabitants of the villages of the country.

As extensively as possible they should put into effect the transmission and presentation of special programs and movies regarding sanitary education.

- Party committees of the Political Affairs Department of the Armed Forces of the DRA, social and guild organizations, the Ministries of Public Health, Higher and Vocational Education, and the Ministry of Education of the DRA should take up the extensive political task of introducing the medical employees and the students of the medical training institutions with the spirit and love of the country and people. In supporting and strengthening this attitude they will show that the basis of professionalism and love of one's country by all the medical employees would revolve around protection of one's life and health and it's those people /medical employees/ who should hold the banner of medical profession high and be exemplary to other individuals.

AFGHANISTAN

IRRIGATION IMPROVING ACROSS COUNTRY

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 21 Mar 85 pp 3, 6

/Text/ The long-term plan for improving the irrigation of new lands and developing the water distribution procedure of existing irrigated lands comprise part of the responsibilities of the revolutionary government of Afghanistan which has been duly confirmed in the operation program of the PDPA.

According to the plans of the DRA and in conformity with the operation program of the party of the PDPA for the purpose of equitable and righteous distribution of water and improving the irrigation situation throughout the country, the Ministry of Irrigation annually prepares and implements irrigation and water distribution plans through funding budgeted by government and related assistance from friendly countries.

In 1364 /21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986/ the plan calls for 500 million afghanis from the development budget, 150 million afghanis from its regular operating budget, six million dollars from foreign assistance program and two million dollars for the purchase of spare parts and equipment in the form of credit from the central bank so that the current year plan decisions can be carried out.

According to 1364 plan, an area comprising 1,100 hectares of new land will be irrigated and 6,000 hectares of existing irrigated lands will be improved. Similarly, the water canals of 3,000 hectares of land will be improved and 8,000 hectares of land will be made ready for cultivation. In order to alleviate the needs of the projects, the plan also calls for the production and assembly of 350 tons of metal implements and equipment; and furthermore, the excavation of eight water wells for irrigation purposes are included in the plan.

Revitalization of the projects and irrigation installations in Kukcheh, Gorgan Chardareh, Sardeh Ghazni, Parvan, Nahr Lashkari, reinforcement of the embankments of Panj Amo, excavation of deep wells, establishment of governmental farms, improvement of villages, construction of irrigation offices, development projects of Helmand and Orghandab valleys and the northern region development projects and survey all comprise part of the principal projects of the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources in 1364.

As regards the application or implementation of 1363 [21 March 1984-20 March 1985] plans, the minister of irrigation and water resources added: According to the 1363 economic, social and development plans of the DRA, there were 29 water irrigation development projects which comprised 21 carried-over projects, three new ones and five experimental projects. For the purpose of financing of these projects a total of 736 million afghanis, including 443 million afghanis from the development budget, 161 million afghanis from the regular operating budget were allocated. Moreover, during 1363 an amount of 46.6 million afghanis from the government's provisional account were spent on irrigation projects. For this purpose, also 4.9 million dollars were assigned to water irrigation development through a loan from the central bank.

In a like fashion, in 1363 more than 890 hectares of new lands came under irrigation and the condition of another 7,750 hectares of land were improved. Furthermore, 1,850 hectares of land became ready for agricultural operation, 1,500 hectares of land received new water canals and 260 tons of necessary metal farm implements and equipment were produced which altogether helped in improving the irrigation situation of 709,000 hectares of land.

As a result of the repair and revitalization program, the improvement of irrigation systems, cleaning of canals and water barriers, operation of 2.26 million cubic meters of land-related affairs including 519,000 cubic meters which were worked on by farm machinery, pouring of 4,970 cubic meters of concrete, construction of 7,018 cubic meters of stone embankments with and without mortar, formation of 147 Farmers' Committees, assignment of 188 officials in charge of water distribution and the establishment of 17 irrigation departments in sub-provinces became possible.

It should be noted here that the Kukcheh project was revitalized and the primary construction work on some projects are underway. So far 15 million afghanis have been spent on Lashkari irrigation system and for the sake of fall cultivation projects eight diesel water-pumps with a total capacity of pumping six cubic meters of water in a second have been installed which altogether they can irrigate an area of 30,000 acres.

With the repair and revitalization project of Sardeh Ghazni, an area of 1,850 hectares of land went under cultivation and additionally, up to 443 hectares of land was seeded in the fall of 1363.

During 1363, the construction work of the new production workshop was completed 82 days ahead of schedule and became operational in honor of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the PDPA. In the same year, 3,000 tons of necessary metal implements and equipment for the irrigation establishments was produced by the Machinery Department of the Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources and put at the disposal of relevant personnel in charge of the projects.

Likewise, construction of complex agricultural projects of Deh Sabz, Bogrami, Sarband and Sifun-e Bakhtiaran, construction and renovation of bridges and small viaducts of irrigation departments of some provinces, renovation and repair of some of the agricultural schools also comprised part of the tasks and duties of this ministry in 1363.

Furthermore, in 1363 the water distribution projects of Qal-e-ye Ahmad-Khan, Qal-e-ye Zaman-Khan, Bogrami network and Gozargah, construction of homes for Charasiab-e Dughabad, Afshar, Marastun and Qal-e-ye Bakhtiaran were completed 60 percent and 61 water wells were excavated in the agricultural schools.

Moreover, an equivalent volume of one million cubic meters of land work, 18,000 cubic meters of stone work, pouring of 13,000 cubic meters of concrete and 44,000 cubic meters of plaster work were carried out by the Helmand construction department, which represent 130 percent of the projected plan. This department won second place in the Kabul city work-competition and received a banner of honor accordingly.

AFGHANISTAN

FARMERS' COOPERATIVES EXPANDING ACROSS COUNTRY

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 21 Mar 85 p 4

/Text/ The Farmers' Cooperatives Union of the DRA in order to fulfill the wishes of the Sawr revolution in 1364 /21 March 1985 - 20 March 1986/ have prepared and organized its plans in the areas of commerce, production, construction, propagation, propaganda and training. In order to adapt and implement these plans the above-stated union makes an all-out effort of which the director of the Farmers' Cooperatives Union Plan of the DRA while talking to DEHQAN's correspondent stated: The Farmers' Cooperatives Union of the DRA is considering putting the following points into effect during 1364.

Commerce Sector:

In this sector the wholesale trade of commodities amounts to 550 million afghanis which comprise 430 million afghanis for consumer goods and 120 million afghanis for the purchase and sale of surplus farm products. Also, in 1364 an equivalent of 35 million afghanis worth of handicrafts will be presented for sale. Likewise, according to the government's plan, the farmers' union is duly bound to buy an amount of 6,000 tons of wheat from the farmers of Farah, Takhar and Badakhshan provinces. Similarly, the Farmers' Cooperatives Union of DRA is intending to purchase an equivalent of 7.8 million dollars worth of foodstuffs and consumer products from the friendly countries, particularly the Soviet Union in the year 1364. In a like manner, we plan to export an equivalent of 150 million afghanis worth of domestic products to the Soviet Union's Middle Eastern Republics.

Basic Capital Investment Sector:

The Farmers' Cooperatives Union of the DRA, in order to secure the needs of consumer cooperatives, plans to build five main warehouses for the storage of consumer and agricultural products. Also it plans to build four stores for selling these products and likewise, to build a small bakery, confectionary, biscuit-making, fruit and vegetable canning plants for which the government planning organization have put 19.9 million afghanis at the disposal of this union. The friendly country of Bulgaria will help in the construction of the above-stated plants.

Organizational Sector:

With regard to the qualitative improvement of the consumer cooperative stores, the farmers' Union also plans to open 100 new consumer stores throughout Kabul and other provinces in 1364. Moreover, three provincial unions, 37 consumer cooperatives, three handicraft cooperatives and 20 warehouses will be built in 1364. It is also worthy to note that about 20,100 new members will be absorbed by the consumer handicrafts cooperatives, which will produce an extra 15 million afghanis in revenue.

Propagation, Propaganda and Training Sector:

First, the Farmers' Cooperatives Union of the DRA which will begin its fifth anniversary before holding the Second Cooperatives' Congress, plans in the current year to invite relevant organizations of friendly countries. Furthermore, in 1364 in addition to extensive propagation of news regarding the privileges of the cooperative movement and the policies of the PDPA and the government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the union also plans to publish extra pamphlets on the occasion of the 7th anniversary of the Sawr revolution, and also design special farmers' and cooperatives' posters, create 300 literacy courses in the provincial capitals, prepare and publish 80 news bulletins, 120 reports and interviews, publish 20 booklets on the subject, organize 80 meetings and introduce 40 new members in the short-term courses of the Cooperative Training Institute in Badam Bagh.

AFGHANISTAN

FARM PRODUCTION INCREASES DUE TO VARIOUS REFORMS

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 21 Mar 85 pp 5, 2

/Text/ The revolutionary government of the DRA according to the glorious goals of the Saur revolution and the operation program of the PDPA has beneficial plans underway for bettering the quality of the lives of the farmers and the animal breeders. The adaptation and implementation of these plans call for our farmers and animal breeders to make themselves familiar with the assistance and plans of the revolutionary government and also to acquaint themselves with the modern methods of farming which tend to increase the level of production.

The propagation and production department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform is in charge of assisting our farmers in the area of cultivation and also familiarizing them with the modern mechanized farming systems. It also guides and helps the farmers to gain acquaintance with the government's assistance and furthermore, it helps them determine the areas to be used for seeding various plants and vegetables in different provinces in its spring and fall campaigns. Likewise, through special coordination campaign councils it examines the cultivation fields. The councils determine and arrange for the transport of farm materials and the gratis assistance of the friendly country of the Soviet Union. They also arrange for the transportation of chemical fertilizers, wheat grain seeds, sugar-beet and cotton-seeds and farm equipment and machinery from the ports to particular destinations inside the country. Accordingly, based on the guidance of the 11th plenum of the Central Committee of the PDPA in order to alleviate the farmers problems, eliminate their needs and collect farm products, every year certain numbers of officials and experts from the central province travel to other provinces.

Based on the cultivation and farming plans in 1363 only an area totaling 3.829 million hectares came under seed cultivation which yielded 7.044 million tons of product. Whereas in 1357 /21 March 1978 - 20 March 1979/ an area totaling 3.871 million hectares yielded only 6.276 million tons of product. A comparison reveals a surplus of 768,000 tons in 1363 over 1357. This figure indicates that despite the fact that in 1363 an equivalent area of more than 42,000 hectares of land had not been cultivated, yet the yield or the final product was significantly more than 1357.

This increase is the result of the guidance and the assistance of our revolutionary government which familiarizes the agricultural employees and the farmers with the technical methods of farming and cultivation and which places sufficient chemical fertilizers and seeds at their disposal. Then again, the growth and increase in productivity acre per acre is mainly the result of the implementation of the democratic land and water reforms. Since before the implementation of the land reform 1.3 percent of all landed property belonged to 30 percent of big landowners and almost 80,000 to 100,000 acres of feudalist lands would not be cultivated each year, while at the same time 667,000 families of farmers, workers and nomads had no land at all.

With the implementation of the democratic land reform most of the workers or farm-hands became landowners, which on the one hand brought all the lands that used to be cultivated by rotation under cultivation annually and thus a vast stretch of land became productive.

With the implementation of the second phase of the democratic land reform along with the distribution of land, the matter of resolving the water distribution, use of chemical fertilizers, use of farm machinery, familiarizing and guiding the farmers with the modern agricultural methods and acquainting them as to how prevent the spread of plant disease all became some of the issues which concerned the revolutionary government to help the farmers cultivate their land more beneficially. It must be noted that the farmers who cannot afford to pay cash for government's agricultural services can do so through loans procured through the Agricultural Development Bank.

To this end, in 1363 an equivalent of 99,600 tons of chemical fertilizers of which 36,000 tons were given gratis by the Soviet Union, 12,000 tons of wheat grain seeds, 4,873 tons of cotton seeds, 27,659 tons of sugar-beet seeds, 35 kilograms of herb seeds, an equivalent of 51.6 million afghanis worth of pesticides and herbicides, an equivalent of 204 million afghanis of loans through the Agricultural Development Bank have been distributed among the farmers. Thus, along with the vast extent of new land which is being cultivated, there has also been an increase in the amount of productivity. The increase of farm products in 1363 in comparison to the year 1357 is the result of the beneficial assistance of our revolutionary government which has been put into effect according to the goals of the revolution and are intended to improve the lives of the farmers.

12719

CSO: 4665/80

AFGHANISTAN

FARMERS COOPERATIVES BOAST 51,000 MEMBERS

Kabul ANIS in Dari 1 Apr 85 pp 1-2

/Text/ The Farmers' Cooperatives Union of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan /DRA/, which has organized a large number of the toiling farmers in various unions, not only has an effective role in the organic unity of the farmers but also imparts the hope that in the future very assuredly it will help develop and enhance the level of farm production and also assist in the process of sales and marketing of the products.

Right now there are more than 51,000 members in the Farmers' Cooperative Unions who are active in social and economic areas in 24 provincial unions and 30 districts and subdistricts unions.

A source from the Central Council of the Farmers' Cooperatives Union, regarding the major activities of this Union during last year in an interview with the correspondent of the newspaper stated: In addition to familiarizing and attracting a large number of farmers who have joined the ranks of the union last year, during the same period 67 stores in the city of Kabul and 150 stores in various provinces also have been opened. Similarly, during 1363 /21 March 1984 - 20 March 1985/, 24,000 farmers and professional individuals have joined the union's consumer and handicraft cooperatives and thus by improving the quality and producing more products and strengthening the economy, they've carried out their mission.

When the above-mentioned source was asked regarding the Union's major plans and activities during the current year, he said: The Central Council of the Farmers' Cooperatives Union intends to present farm products by way of wholesale trade with a total value of 5.5 million afghanis and through capital investment of handicrafts with a value of 35 million afghanis present them for sale at the stores which have been selected for the purpose.

In a like fashion, in order to familiarize and attract the farmers, it is also intended that 20,100 of the farmers be mobilized in three provincial unions, 37 consumer cooperative unions and three handicraft cooperatives which are newly being formed.

Also in the current year there will be six warehouse built in Kabul and other provinces in order to store farm and consumer products. Likewise, four new

stores will be built and the construction of truck stops in Kabul will be completed. The source went on to add: According to the plan developed by the Central Council of Cooperatives Union it is intended that during the current year a small bakery factory, a confectionary, fruit and vegetable canning plants and one cold storage will be built with the help of the friendly country of Bulgaria.

In answer to a question regarding attracting people to the cooperatives the source stated: In order to give this project a quick boost there are some strong propaganda plans, which in addition to calling for the attraction of the farmers and assimilation of the policies of the cooperatives, during the current year also calls for the formation of 300 literacy courses for those farmers who are deprived of the blessing of reading and writing.

The source also said: All the consumer and industrial materials, which are presented for sale through cooperative stores, are 10 to 20 percent below the market price. It should be mentioned here that part of the above-stated materials are produced domestically and part are imported from friendly countries.

Thus, in order to buttress and strengthen this union as much as possible and make it able to provide an extensive array of assistance to our countrymen, the central council intends to train technical personnel, build some warehouses and also purchase 10 trucks for transportation of the products.

The above-stated source also mentioned some of the difficulties which are facing the union and said: The perceptible difficulties which are causing some delay or interruption in the work of the unions are the lack of adequate warehouses for storing the materials and also shops or stores which would sell these materials. Likewise, a lack of sufficient personnel and revolving fund comprise some of the other difficulties. We hope during the current year we will be able to solve all these problems and strengthen and develop the cooperatives union movement the way it should really be developed.

12719
CSO: 4665/76

AFGHANISTAN

MECHANIZED FARMING TO INCREASE PRODUCTION

Kabul ANIS in Dari 21 Feb 85 p 2

/Text/ Our country is an agricultural nation where over 80 percent of the population is engaged in husbandry and farming. Therefore, as a result of feudalistic domination and even before the era of feudalism no change had occurred in the agricultural sector until the victory of the revolution. Farming and cultivation was carried on with the same old medieval tools of days gone by. At that time, the majority of the inhabitants of the land, which was composed of farmers, either did not own land or had a very small parcel which they cultivated by very primitive methods and through considerable hardship and labor. A handful of big landowners who were in a minority employed the majority of the society as slaves and kept them engaged in farming and thus lived off them in a life of luxury and splendor.

The existence of such circumstances caused the country's agriculture to remain underdeveloped and as a result with each passing day the number of sick, indigent and hunger-stricken people increased.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan /PDPA/, based on scientific analysis and precise recognition of the needs of Afghan society, has always believed in the principle that "as long as our farmers have not come out of their bondage and have not broken the yoke of tyranny and oppression of feudalism, and as long as the issue of the farmers is not solved and our national, democratic and freedom-seeking movement has not been fully realized, we can not put an end to the poverty and backwardness which has afflicted our people for so many centuries and attain a progressive social, democratic and economic independence." Having this principle in mind, from the very beginning of the victory of the Saur revolution and particularly when its new and evolutionary stage was attained, the subject of the solution of the land reform issue as the most significant of the Saur revolution's achievements was implemented and put into effect.

Everyday scientifically designed plans organized by the party and the government in the agricultural sector and their implementation in the farming industry opens up new horizons for our toiling peasants. According to the advanced plans of the party and the government, special attention is paid to the utilization of mechanized farming. Comprehensive assistance to the farmers brings about the opportunity to take fast measures toward the development of

agriculture. According to the published news regarding the assistance of the party and the government to the farmers during the first six months of the current year, over three million afghanis worth of agricultural tools and machinery have been distributed among the farmers of Helmand Province. Furthermore, in order to help the farmers of this province, a sum of 3,593,000 afghanis for the purchase of tractors and farming implements and a sum of 379,000 afghanis for the purchase of chemical fertilizers and wheat grain seeds have been loaned to the farmers by the branch of Agricultural Development Bank of Helmand during the first six months of the current year.

Accordingly, based on necessity and the demands of the farmers and in order to enhance the quality and quantity of farming and farm products, throughout other provinces similar assistance and help has been extended to all the farmers. To propagate and develop mechanized farming throughout the country and alleviate the needs of the peasants in the provinces of Kabul, Baghlan, Balkh, Jowzjan and Herat, mechanized stations have been built. Similarly, four modern mechanized stations in the provinces of Ghazni, Samangan, Qonduz and Farah, which are equipped with agricultural machinery such as tractors, combines, seed and fertilizer spreaders and wheat cutters, etc., are putting all this equipment and machinery at the disposal of the farmers who can rent them for a small sum of money and thus improve their farming methods. Of course this is just the beginning of the implementation of the progressive plans of the party and the government in the mechanized agricultural sectors of the country. Along with the implementation of land and water reforms and the organization of the farmers in agricultural cooperatives and farm councils and the assistance of the party and the government, our toiling farmers throughout the country, by utilizing new methods of cultivation and farming, are speedily heading toward a more progressive and developed stage of farming.

12719

CSO: 4665/76

AFGHANISTAN

OVER 28,000 ACRES DISTRIBUTED TO FARMERS

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 6 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Through the implementation of democratic land reforms, land and water, which prior to the revolution belonged to the large landlords, is now being distributed to farmers without land or with small holdings.

In addition to the distribution of land to the farmers, material and technical help is also being provided so that farmers can cultivate their own land and make a good and comfortable living from the sale of their products.

The PDPA's action plan explains the distribution of land to farmers and gives assistance to improve the lives of farmers in this way: "The policy of the party and the government of the DRA has been based on activities aimed at the distribution of land and water to farmers, assistance through the granting of loans and equipment, the provision of the imperative means for the delivery of necessary materials, the creation of facilities for the sale of their products, the continuous improvement of their living condition and raising their level of political and cultural awareness. These matters are being given earnest attention. Furthermore, consideration has been given to adopting definite policies in the area of raising the level of agricultural production to benefit the vast masses of the farmers and thus raise the real income of farming families."

In order to implement the democratic land and water reforms, which is a basic goal of the glorious Sawr revolution and the party's action plan, 72 operational groups will be busy implementing the democratic land and water reforms nation-wide during the current year.

A source at the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform told DEHQAN's reporter: The work of the democratic land and water reforms is being carried out by three committees, a Land Settlement and Determination Committee, a Land Distribution Committee and a Land Deeds Committee, plus a Material and Technical Assistance Committee. Based on the work of the Land Settlement and Determination Committee, 185,773 acres of land belonging to 22,758 families were settled this current year. Similarly, the area of 28,825 acres of land were distributed to farming families with no land or small holdings by the relevant committee during the 1984-1985 year.

Material and technical assistance has been provided to farmers who have become land owners as a result of the democratic land and water reforms so that they can cultivate their own land. This assistance includes seed, chemical fertilizer, pesticides, and agricultural equipment. Farmers obtain this assistance through grants and loans from cooperatives.

9597

CSO: 4665/69

AFGHANISTAN

CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CREATED

Kabul DEHQAN in Dari 6 Mar 85 p 2

[Text] Following the victory of the glorious Sawr revolution, plant research centers were created in order to improve plant seed and to identify soil and climate favoring better plant growth. Now through the use of improved seeds and the cultivation of plants in suitable soils farmers' produce has increased and their lives have improved.

One of these centers is the Shishom Bagh Plant Research Center in Nangarhar Province. This center includes sections for fruit research, seed improvement, vegetables agronomy, plant diseases and insects, and soil enrichment.

During the current year the fruit section investigated different kinds of citrus fruits, the plant improvement section carried out 16 experiments on the suitability of plant with the soil environment, climatic conditions, productivity and artificial pollination, and the agronomy section carried out five experiments aimed at finding the suitable time for planting, and the amount of chemical fertilizer to be used.

The vegetable section carried out two experiments on tomatoes and eggplant, three experiments on wheat and two on onions in order to find effective chemical agents to control diseases and insects and one experiment on the resistance of cane sugar to disease and insects. The soil reinforcement section also has studied the use of phosphorous fertilizers on wheat. During the current year the soil analysis branch was established and the preliminary work was carried out by technicians from the friendly country of the Soviet Union.

The farmers in the provinces of Nangarhar, Laghasmn and Konarha have increased their produce by utilizing the scientific achievements of the Shishom Bagh Research Center and using the correct amount of chemical fertilizer, planting seed at the proper time, using improved seeds and fighting blights and agricultural pests.

9597
CSO: 4665/69

AFGHANISTAN

COLLECTIVE VOLUNTARY CLEANING PROJECTS UNDERWAY IN KABUL

Kabul ANIS in Dari 20 Mar 85 p 1

[Article: "Mass Projects to Clean Environment"]

[Text] The District Council chief of Kabul's 1st District of the National Fatherland Front discussed the organization of volunteer work in an interview with our correspondent and said:

In the third quarter of the current year, the 1st District Council of Kabul's National Fatherland Front has launched ten volunteer projects with the participation of 1,200 individuals and residents of the region. During these volunteer projects, streets and alleys were cleaned, ditches were drained, mosques were repaired and painted and potable water was procured for residents, thus saving and earning the nation an enormous gain.

He said: As a result of the extensive assistance from the employees of The 1st District of the National Fatherland Front of Kabul, after preliminary surveys in order to attract illiterates and those with limited reading and writing ability, some literacy courses were formed. In the third quarter of the current year this council was able to form 12 literacy classes in various parts of the district, which enrolled 189 people. All the courses were taught by volunteer teachers.

The chief of The 1st District of the National Fatherland Front of Kabul discussed the council's propaganda activities and said: As a result of the revolutionary work and the persistence of employees of the 1st District of the National Fatherland Front of Kabul, in the third quarter of the current year 31 gatherings and meetings have been held which were attended by more than 2,805 people; during these meetings and gatherings explanations were given by employees of this council concerning party goals, the righteousness of the revolution, and the populist goals of the National Fatherland Front. As a result of this propaganda and the persistent efforts of this council's propaganda employees, the noble people of this district, perceiving the righteousness of the revolution and the National Fatherland Front, have closed ranks tighter day by day around the councils of the National Fatherland Front, and continue to do so.

He went on to add: The employees of this council, through perseverance and persistence, have been able to establish 14 environmental councils in various parts of the district in the third quarter of the current year. This in itself illustrates the people's realization of the humanitarian goals of the National Fatherland Front. Apart from the fact that the membership of such councils grows day by day, our patriotic people are voluntarily acquiring the honor of membership in the National Fatherland Front.

Continuing his remarks, he added: At the level of the 1st District Council of Kabul, in the third quarter of the current year, in five neighborhood councils the family arbitration commissions have been able to resolve 36 family disputes which could have broken up the families.

9310

CSO: 4665/73

AFGHANISTAN

WORKERS COMMITTED TO INCREASED PRODUCTION

Kabul ANIS in Dari 20 Mar 85 p 4

[Text] The victory of The National and Democratic Sawr revolution, as a great historical event under the leadership of PDPA, brought great changes to the life of the toilers of the nation. For this reason all the noble people of Afghanistan, including its employees and laborers, have made revolutionary commitments to increase production. The toiling workers have commitments to save money; besides holding extensive meetings, they are increasing production in their institutions through crash programs and volunteer work.

One source describes the commitments that the toiling workers of its institution have made to increase production in honor of the seventh anniversary of the triumph of the Sawr revolution as follows:

The toiling workers of this institution have made a commitment to work voluntarily from one to four in the afternoon on Thursdays from 2 Hamal 1364 [22 March 1985] to 7 Sawr [27 April]. This volunteer work will be used to create a poultry farm with a capacity of 1,500 chickens, to create a green space about an acre in size, and build a park of friendship.

With regard to economizing, the source said:

Workers of the institution have promised to make use of surplus items such as shavings for repairs, projects, tooling, and so forth, and thus save a total of 50,000 afghanis for the institution.

They also promised to save 798,000 afghanis on materials and to save 1,000 kilowatts in electricity.

In undertaking to save money in honor of the seventh anniversary of the Sawr revolution, the workers have also promised to show initiative in keeping machinery active and in good repair when there are technical problems, and to work night and day to put it back into service in the shortest time possible, as well as to complete and deliver rush orders to clients ahead of schedule.

In answer to another question from ANIS's correspondent, the source said: In the drive to save money, at the present time 755 men and women are at work, including 600 members of the institute's trade union; in addition most of the institution's toiling workers are members of the defense group, and defend their institution day and night. In order to provide maximum encouragement for production in this institution, in the month of Sonbolah this year [23 August-22 September 1985] a month's pay will be distributed to all workers based on the year's ledger, and in the month of Jadi this year [22 December 1985 - 20 January 1986] all workers will receive a five-day bonus.

The source added: This year this institution took third place among other production institutions in the third-quarter production competition, and was awarded a banner of honor.

9310

CSO: 4665/73

BANGLADESH

GOVERNMENT ISSUES PRESS NOTE ON CHITTAGONG INCIDENT

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 13 May 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Police had to open fire Saturday at Chapai Nawabganj when a section of unruly people tried to hold a public meeting defying official orders, reports BSS.

According to a Press Note issued in Dhaka last night, six persons were killed and 18 others injured while a magistrate and 19 police personnel received serious injuries in the incident in which a number of public vehicles were also damaged.

The Government has constituted an enquiry commission with the District Judge, Rajshahi as the chairman to probe immediately into the incident, the Press Note added.

The Ministry of Home Affairs last night issued the following Press Note in the Chapai Nawabganj incident:

A group of people at Chapai Nawabganj made an announcement for holding a protest meeting in the afternoon of the 11th May, 1985 at the local Idgah Maidan to voice their resentment against a writ petition filed in the Calcutta High Court praying for the confiscation of the holy Quran. Apprehending that the proposed meeting might lead to deterioration of the law and order situation, the local administration decided not to allow the meeting. The District Administration met the organisers of the proposed meeting from 8 am to 10 am on Saturday wherein the implications of this type of meeting were discussed in details. A written agreement was signed by the organisers with an assurance that the proposed meeting would not be held and an announcement by mike was accordingly made in the town.

Despite the agreement, some people started gathering at the Idgah Maidan from about 3 pm of the same day for holding a public meeting. A police contingent accompanied by magistrate was detailed at the Idgah Maidan to dissuade the people from holding the meeting and for maintenance of law and order. The people who had gathered there were required by the magistrate and the police not to hold the meeting and to leave the place. This, unfortunately, was ignored by the crowd which swelled in the meantime. They became unruly and, in spite of repeated requests to disperse, started pelting stones and brickbats

at the police causing injuries to the magistrate and several police personnel who, then, took shelter in the nearby Mahila Madrasha. The mob gheraoed and attacked them with lethal weapons. They damaged 3 jeeps, one fire brigade vehicle and burnt one police motor cycle. As the mob became more violent, the police resorted to lathi charge and fired tear gas shells to prevent further damage to public property and loss of life. Instead of dispersing, the mob became more violent and pressed on with their assault upon the law enforcing officials with renewed vigour. As a result, the magistrate had his arm fractured and 19 police personnel received serious injuries, two of them were grievously hurt.

Finding no other alternative to save their lives and public properties, the police opened fire which resulted in bullet injured to 24 persons. Three of them died on the spot and another three succumbed to their injuries later. The remaining 18 injured admitted in hospitals at Chapai Nawabganj and Rajshahi.

Police and BDR reinforcements were sent to bring the situation under control which is now normal.

The government has constituted an enquiry commission with Mr Bazlud Rahman, District Judge, Rajshahi as chairman for causing an immediate judicial inquiry into the incidents leading to the death of six persons. While deeply regretting the loss of 6 valuable lives, the government sanctioned Taka 50,000 as financial assistance to the bereaved families of each of the deceased persons.

CSO: 4600/1610

BANGLADESH

BANGLADESH DELEGATE ADDRESSES SARC FOREIGN MINISTERS

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 14 May 85 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Thimpu May 13:--Bhutanese King Jigme Singye Wangchuk today expressed his confidence that the first South Asian summit meeting to be held in Dhaka in December this year would lay the foundation for closer friendship, greater stability and more meaningful cooperation in the region, reports BSS.

Inaugurating the third foreign ministers conference of the South Asian Regional Cooperation (SARC) here at the colourfully decorated conference hall of the Bhutanese Foreign Ministry King Wangchuk reiterated Bhutan's firm commitment to regional cooperation in South Asia.

The King said that his country had been an ardent supporter of SARC ever since the idea was first mooted by Bangladesh in 1980.

Heads of delegation from the participating countries including Bangladesh Rasheed Chowdhury were on the podium during the inaugural session.

Another report says: Foreign Affairs Adviser Humayun Rahsheed Chowdhury on Monday told the third Foreign Ministers' conference of the South Asian Regional Conference (SARC) countries that Bangladesh had already initiated preparatory work with a seriousness to make the first SARC summit a success.

Speaking at the business session of the conference inaugurated by the Bhutanese King Jigme Singye Wangchuk the Foreign Adviser called upon the member countries to extend their valuable support and cooperation to make the summit successful.

The business session began with the outgoing Chairman and Maldivian Foreign Minister Fathullah Jameel in the chair later the Foreign Minister of Bhutan Lyonpo Dawa Tsering was unanimously elected the new Chairman

Mr Chowdhury who is leading the Bangladesh delegation at the meeting noted with happiness that the Foreign Secretaries of the participating countries had held consultations on the format and content of the possible outcome of the summit and that they had reached agreement on the basic elements of the instruments that the summit could adopt.

The Foreign Secretaries he said had already prepared the draft documents for the consideration of the Foreign Ministers.

Mr Chowdhury said that only a commitment at the highest political level could provide the seal of sanction to the process of regional cooperation rendering it self [as published] sustaining and sparking the imagination of the peoples of the region.

"We have to be conscious that great expectations have been generated among our peoples and we must live up to the hopes and expectations of one fourth of humanity that is now focussed on the forthcoming summit meeting of our leaders' he said.

The Foreign Adviser recalled the New Delhi meeting of SARC Foreign Ministers in August 1983 and described it as a landmark in regional cooperation as it manifested a determined political will to undertake a programme of action designed to provide an acceptable quality of life to the peoples in the South Asian region.

Mr Chowdhury suggested the member countries to nominate one judge each to the pannel recommended by the standing committee for consideration of selecting the SARC emblem from among various proposals.

The foreign adviser touched upon the world economic situation which is an agenda item and said economic development in the region had suffered a loss of momentum due to factors beyond our control such as recession and adverse climatic conditions. The continued misery of least developed nations and possibly of reemergence of the debt crisis continue to pose threats of destabilisation he said.

Mr Chowdhury sought the support of the SARC for the position of four least developed countries of the region at the global mid term review of substantial new programme of action (SNPA) to be held in Geneva from September 30 to October 11.

CSO: 4600/1611

BANGLADESH

MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR MEETS WITH CHITTAGONG TRIBALS

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 13 May 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Chittagong, May 12 (BSS): Maj Gen. M. Noorudd in Khan, Zonal Martial Law Administrator, Zone-C, called upon the tribal leaders to persuade misguided tribal youths to return to normal life for the greater interest of the nation.

He told the central committee of the tribal convention here today that peace was prerequisite for economic development.

He hoped that the tribal leaders with their sincere efforts could win the heart of the disgruntled tribal youths now hiding and said due to their efforts 233 men of priti group of so-called Shanti Bahini surrendered with 89 weapons and huge ammunitions.

Sixteen convention members out of 21 from Khagrachhari, Rangamati and Bandarban districts attended the meeting.

Turning to the development activities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region consisting Rangamati; Khagrachari and Bandarban districts Gen Noorudin Khan said that a record amount of money is being spent for the development of the area.

Giving a break up Gen Khen said that Taka 21 crore was spent for development of 13 roads. In this sector, he said, additional sanction of Taka seven crore was being needed to complete the work by the current fiscal year. An estimated amount of Taka 5.79 crore was sanctioned in power sector for the current fiscal year, he said.

Gen Khan said that Chittagong Hill Tracts region will be connected with most modern tele-communication system by June of 1986. During the current financial year Taka 12.50 crore was being spent in this sector.

Gen. Nooruddin Khan said that the Government was determined to develop the region like other parts of the country and with that end in view it took a Taka 263 crore special five-year-plan for the Region. He said two 50-bed hospitals at Rangamati and Khagrachhari were being set up to reach the modern health facilities to the people of those areas.

The ZMLA further said that the Government were also spending Taka 3.64 crore for water development, Taka four crore for Jhumia rehabilitation, Taka 50 lakh for pulp wood production, Taka 70 lakh for horticulture, Taka 1.27 crore for agriculture, Taka eight lakh for cotton, Taka 2.10 crore for animal husbandry, Taka 25 lakh for fisheries, Taka 50 lakh for cottage industries, Taka 2.39 crore for education, Taka 1.60 crore for health, Taka 77 lakh for family planning and Taka 20 lakh for tourism in the current fiscal year.

Gen Khan told the convention that 233 men of the Priti group who returned on April 25 last had sought government help to settle in their normal life and to contribute to national development activities.

He said of them 33 wanted service, 82 opted for business, 41 technical training and 72 landed property. He said that the government had already taken up steps in this regard.

The tribal convention was attended, among others by Divisional Commissioner Mr. Ali Hayder Khan, Deputy Commissioners of Rangamati, Khagrachhari, Bandarban, SPs of the three districts of the region and High Civil and Military Officers.

CSO: 4600/1610

BANGLADESH

PAPERS REPORT, COMMENT ON AID CLUB PLEDGED TO DHAKA

Pledge Less Than Last Year

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 11 May 85 p 1

[Text] Paris, May 10:--Western nations have pledged 1.68 billion dollars of foreign aid to Bangladesh to help it execute development projects in the next financial year, reports Reuter.

After a two-day meeting involving 13 donor countries and five international organisations, Bangladesh's finance adviser Mohammed Syeduzzaman told reporters the amount pledged for the year from July 1 was 40 million dollars less than in 1984-85. However, he said his country expected a further 20 million dollars from donors not at the meeting, while two further items under negotiation could bring the total up to 2.01 billion. The government's aid target for the year is 1.92 billion dollars.

The aid would concentrate on population planning health, education, nutrition and jobs as part of the first year of its new Five-Year Plan, he said.

In a communique, the World Bank said Bangladesh could boost its efficiency in several areas and strengthen its financial institutions.

Severe floods that caused some 380 million dollars of damage had added to Bangladesh's economic disappointments over the last year, the bank said. But the donors commended the Bangladesh government on its efficient response to the disaster.

Syeduzzaman said the nation's economy had borne the full costs of the floods despite 90 million dollars in special aid.

To pay for extra foodgrain imports it had to draw on scarce exchange reserves, which he estimated would fall to 375 million dollars at the end of June from 516 million a year earlier.

The donor countries at the meeting were Australia, Belgium, Britain, Canada Denmark Finland France West Germany, Japan, the Netherlands Norway Sweden and the United States.

Finance Adviser Returns From Paris

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 13 May 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] Bangladesh expects to receive a little over 1.9 billion dollars of aid for fiscal 1985-86 from the western donors grouped in Aid Club and other bilateral sources Finance Adviser Mr M Syeduzzaman said in Dhaka on Sunday reports BSS.

The Adviser who returned to Dhaka Sunday from France after attending the two day Bangladesh Aid Group meeting held in Paris on May 9 and 10 told reporters at the airport that the Aid Group had pledged a total of 1.69 billion dollars of aid for the period.

Of the total quantum 1019 million dollars will be available as project aid and technical assistance 431 million dollars as commodity assistance and 240 million dollars as food aid.

Mr Syeduzzaman said that the pledge made by the Aid Group this year is 4.5 per cent higher in SDR terms and 1.5 per cent lower in dollar terms compared to last year.

He pointed out that the quantum of aid pledged by the Aid Group and the indications available from other bilateral sources would ultimately bring the aid figure for next fiscal roughly to 1.9 billion dollars as against the requirement of 1.92 dollar projected in the aid memorandum placed before the donors.

The Finance Adviser further pointed out that although last year Aid Group pledged 1.71 billion dollars of aid, eventually at the end of the year with additional aid for the flood and aid received from other sources the total figure stood at a little over 1.9 billion dollars, this year's projection is also expected to be more or less at last year's level he said.

Mr Syeduzzaman said that for 1985-86 the disbursement of aid is projected at 1.6 billion dollars on the basis of pledges made by the Aid Group and the other bilateral sources.

He said that given the normal condition the Aid Group pledge was supposed to be 1.79 billion dollars. But he said due to certain circumstances the pledge is roughly 105 million dollars less than the expected quantum.

Explaining the Adviser said the Asian Development Bank indicate that it would make available to Bangladesh 225 million dollars of assistance compared to 306 million dollars given last year. This ADB assistance declined by about 81 million dollars due to non-replenishment of Asian Development Fund (ADF).

He further said Japan's pledge is also equal to the level of last year because the Japanese budget for development cooperation was yet to be finalised. The Adviser, however, said Japanese aid may go up by 8 to 10 per cent.

The Adviser said that the Federal Republic of Germany did not pledge any commodity aid because large quantum of FRG commodity aid was lying unused. There was however indications that fresh commodity aid could be made available for Bangladesh if the existing quantum was utilised satisfactorily.

The Finance Adviser said that France has not pledged any commodity aid this year but there were indications that the issue would come for discussion when the annual consultations take place between the two countries in June next. France may give five million dollars of commodity assistance for next year he said.

Mr Syeduzzaman said that support from IDA had been indicated at a level of 1200 million dollars for 1984-1987. During 1984-85 Bangladesh received 350 million dollars from IDA and the rest of the amount will be channelised during the next two financial years. In the previous three years the IDA assistance totalled 1130 million dollars.

He pointed out that although the IDA-7 resources had gone down on an overall basis, Bangladesh expected to receive more aid from IDA-7 compared to IDA-6.

The Adviser said the 12th meeting of the Aid Group participated by 28 governments and institutions, largest ever attended strongly commended Bangladesh's handling of food situation flood and post flood situations.

The meeting also expressed appreciation for large number of policy measures taken by the Government in respect of agriculture food private sector opportunities, export promotion, budgetary discipline decentralisation of administrative and financial authorities, fertiliser distribution foodgrain procurement and support price measures import liberalisation and rationalisation of taxes and duties.

Mr Syeduzzaman said the meeting also expressed concern about major medium and long-term issues on which the future growth of country's economy would depend. They include: Increase in food, production maximum use of irrigation facilities strong measure for population control measures for checking growing rural poverty and unemployment industrialisation for generating additional employment export diversification and domestic resource raising.

The Adviser said in some cases the donors had indicated greater local cost financing depending on expeditions implementation of project. Some donors had also agreed to unite aid procurements were made from other Third World countries he added.

Mr Syeduzzaman said it was also agreed that a study would be undertaken on procedural improvements on both sides for accelerating project and commodity aid disbursement.

Poor Utilization of Aid

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 13 May 85 p 5

[Editorial; "All About Aid"]

[Text] Reports have reached Dhaka that for the next financial year Bangladesh has received the commitment of \$1.68 billion from its donor countries. That is \$340 million less than what Bangladesh asked for. On the other hand the Aid Club has increased the aid flow to Pakistan more than their demand. Pakistan has placed a demand for \$1.80 billion this year but the Aid Club has pledged about \$2 billion to that country.

One then wonders as to the differences in the attitude of the Aid Club towards these two countries. Is it sheer one-sidedness or is there any rationale behind this asymmetric behaviour of the Aid Club? Even though no explicit reason has been put forward to justify the aid-cut to Bangladesh, in the case of Pakistan the aid increase has been termed as a reward in recognition for their good performance in the economy. It then immediately raises the question whether the aid cut to Bangladesh is due to the failure of the country to impress the members of the Aid Club about the economic performance here.

There is no denying the fact that our performance with the utilisation of aid has not reportedly been as encouraging as it should have been. Thus during any given period of time, all the aid money that has been allocated or disbursed could not be fully utilised and there have been spill-overs of aided projects from one period to another. This might have led the donor countries to treat Bangladesh as a case for less aid rather than more.

The low utilization rate of foreign aid in this country is quite often attributed to the low absorptive capacity of the economy. Such a low capacity may be one of the reasons for the low utilisation rate of aid but it is neither the only reason nor the most important reason for the low utilisation rate. Furthermore, the absorptive capacity of an economy is not a given fact. It can be increased through initiating more activities in the economy, and different government policies in the monetary and fiscal areas can play a crucial role in this respect. The question is: have sufficient pragmatic policies been adopted over the time to increase the absorptive capacity of this economy?

But, most importantly, the low utilisation rate of foreign aid in this country is more due to the nature of the development administration of the government. The poor utilisation of project-aid is due to delays in every aspect of a project. There are delays in submitting project proposals, in having them accepted by the concerned authorities and lastly, in implementing those projects. The World Bank has observed that these delays being experienced in recent years suggest a problem of major proportions. Disbursement rates have fallen, the time required to complete projects have increased, cost overruns have been substantial and, in the process, rates of return have declined significantly.

The World Bank, has, however, traced all the delays to the nature of the decision-making process: namely, the multi-tiered structure for making and reviewing decisions and the reluctance on the part of higher level officials to delegate authority to subordinates as well as the reluctance of some officers to utilise fully the powers vested in them. Excessive delays in decision-making appear to result from the absence of a sense of urgency on the part of those involved, the very large number of layers involved in the decision-making process and inadequate attention by supervisors to the timely disposal of cases. This is thus a simple problem of bureaucracy.

In fact, the bureaucracy and the political process have been responsible over the years for the misuse of food and commodity aid also. The use of such aid in a non-objective fashion in terms of individual or partisan interests have prevented the benefits of those aid from reaching those for whom they were intended.

The Aid Club is reported to have taken serious note of the failure of the development financial institutions to recover the loans and the administrative inefficiency to improve the project implementation in Bangladesh. The donor countries are also interested in observing how the economy is managed by the government both in the economic as well as the financial fronts. Only a major breakthrough in those areas is going to have an impact on the attitude of the donor countries to us. Such a breakthrough would need, among other things, a stable political process with sincerity and an efficient, experienced but honest bureaucracy.

Foreign aid is given neither out of love nor out of philanthropy. It is given on the basis of the economic performance of an economy. Thus one World Bank report once suggested that if domestic resource mobilization efforts are strengthened and improvements in administrative structures and procedures lead to a more effective utilization of aid, then there would be a case for further increases in the level of assistance over time. Therefore, only a good report-card can ensure a country the amount of foreign aid it needs.

CSO: 4600/1609

BANGLADESH

CHOWDHURY RETURNS FROM JIDDAH IPC MEETING

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 7 May 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Adviser for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury, said in Dhaka on Monday that the eighth session of the Islamic Peace Committee (IPC) at the Head of State and Government level would be held in Jeddah on August 4 and 5 to find out an honourable solution to the Iran-Iraq war.

Talking to BSS on his return from Jeddah after attending the just concluded 7th IPC session Mr. Chowdhury said that Bangladesh had played a "constructive and moderate role" in the deliberations of the meeting.

The committee, he said, thanked Bangladesh for its offer to host a meeting of the IPC and agreed to hold an IPC meeting in Dhaka in future.

He pointed out that President H. M. Ershad had offered his personal service for the disposal of the concern of all the parties and to help resolve the fratricidal war between the two Muslim countries.

Bangladesh, Mr. Chowdhury said, had also been playing its constructive and moderate role in other forums like the United Nations, and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) for an early solution to the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Mr. Chowdhury said that in the 7th session it was for the first time the Committee took note of the reports of the use of chemical weapons in the Iran Iraq war in violation of the Geneva Protocol of 1925.

He said the Committee condemned the violations of international humanitarian law applicable to armed conflicts particularly the Geneva conventions on the laws of war and the treatment of prisoners of war.

The session, the Adviser pointed out, had called for strict observance of the Geneva Protocol of 1925 and the Chicago Convention on Civil Aviation.

The Committee expressed serious concern at the recent escalation of hostilities between the two parties and deeply regretted the breakdown of the agreement of June 12 last year arrived under the auspices of the United Nations.

Under the June 12 agreement both sides undertook not to attack civilian targets and called upon the two parties to respect international conventions designed to prevent or alleviate the human sufferings of war fare.

Mr. Chowdhury said the IPC expressed its deep anxiety over continuing preparations for launching further attacks across the borders which threaten the area

and the Muslim world in General.

The Committee, he added, reiterated its call for an immediate cease-fire and emphasised the urgency need for an honourable and just peace based on the principles of Islam and international law governing interstate relations, and in accordance with the various peace proposals submitted by it to the two sides.

The Committee which heard the reports of the IPC Chairman and OIC Secretary General on the situation of Iran-Iraq war, decided to transmit the information contained in the report to the Heads of State of its members for their consideration.

The reports of IPC Chairman and OIC Secretary General were based on their contacts, consultations and discussions with the representatives of Iran and Iraq as well as with other Heads of State and Government, the UN Secretary General and the Chairman of Non-Aligned Movement, the Adviser said.

During his stay in Saudi Arabia Mr. Chowdhury performed Umrah at the Holy Kaaba and offered Ziarat at the Rawza Mu-barak of the Holy Prophet (SM) in Madina Al-Munawara,

BANGLADESH

MARTIAL LAW ORDER ON PRICING RETAIL, WHOLESALE GOODS

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 16 May 85 pp 1, 8

[Text]

The Chief Martial Law Administrator yesterday issued Martial Law Order No 97, according to an official handout.

The order is as follows:

The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, fix the maximum price, retail or wholesale or both, of any commodity.

Where the maximum price of any commodity is fixed under paragraph 1, the manufacturer, producer, importer, distributor, wholesaler or retailer of the commodity shall—

(a) where possible, affix on the body of the commodity a label or put an imprint thereon showing the price so fixed: (b) in any other case, display on or near the commodity the price so fixed in such manner as may be clearly visible and understandable to any person willing to purchase the commodity.

Every person, other than a retailer selling any commodity the maximum price of which is fixed under paragraph 1, shall grant a receipt to the purchaser showing the price and the quantity of the commodity sold.

The Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, direct the manufacturer, producer or importer of any commodity to fix the maximum wholesale and retail price of the commodity manufactured, produced or imported by him.

Where the maximum price of any commodity is fixed in accordance with the direction given under paragraph 4, the manufacturer, producer or importer of the commodity shall—

(a) where possible, affix on the body of the commodity a label or put an imprint thereon showing the price as fixed:

(b) in any other case, display on or near the commodity the price so fixed in such manner as may be clearly visible and understandable to any person willing to purchase the commodity.

Every person, other than a retailer, selling any commodity the maximum price of which is fixed in accordance with the direction given under paragraph 4, shall grant a receipt to the purchaser showing the price and the quantity of the commodity sold.

Any person who deals in any commodity the maximum price of which is fixed in accordance with the direction given under paragraph 4, shall display in a conspicuous part of the place where the commodity is stored or exposed for sale the price so fixed.

No person shall sell any commodity at a price higher than the maximum price fixed for the commodity under paragraph 1 or in accordance with the direction given under paragraph 4.

Whoever contravenes the provisions of paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

Whoever contravenes the provisions of paragraph 8 shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years, or with fine, or with both."

BANGLADESH

FOOD PRODUCTION REPORTED TO FALL SHORT OF PLAN TARGET

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 16 May 85 pp 1, 8

[Article by Syed Badiuzzaman]

[Text]

The Second Five-Year-Plan ending next month has failed to make any significant headway in achieving one of its major objectives—"self-sufficiency in food in the shortest possible time".

According to government estimate, the foodgrains production rose to 15.57 million tons in the current year from the benchmark figure of 13.4 million tons in 1979-80 while the target was fixed at 20 million tons.

The relevant department of the Ministry of Agriculture has attributed the shortfall of foodgrains production to flood and other natural calamities. "Even then this was not a mean achievement", it, however, said adding that "production trend of other crops was also not encouraging".

A just concluded review of the crop sub-sector revealed that during the first four years of the Second Five-year Plan period the annual compound growth rate of crops was 3.4 percent.

An analysis of growth rates of individual crop during this period showed that the performance of rice, wheat and potato were good although these were still lagging behind the plan targets. Pulses, oilseeds and spices remained static but there was

some growth in fruits and vegetables.

Among the cash crops, jute showed negative growth while cotton increased from a very negligible base.

The cropping intensity increased but very slowly, by less than one percent a year. Some change in cropping pattern, has, however, been observed. Per acre production of rice, wheat and potato increased while that of jute, pulses, oilseeds and coarse cereals decreased.

The long-term trend in per acre yield of different crops gives rather a gloomy picture. Although the total rice production showed an increasing trend, the increased production came from shifting of land from local to the high yielding varieties (HYV) and not from increased yield of different varieties of rice.

The per acre yield of all rice increased from 12.5 maunds in 1970 to 14.5 maunds in 1983 but individually the per acre yield of all the varieties decreased during the period. Particularly, the boro HYV yield decreased from 40.47 maunds in 1970 to 29.9 maunds in 1983. The total production of jute also declined from 66 lakh bales to 48 lakh bales

despite increase in the acre yield from 13.66 maunds to 15.96 maunds. It was due to declining area under jute cultivation. The per acre yield of all other crops excepting potato, tea, cotton and tobacco declined.

CSO: 466 0/1615

BANGLADESH

WRITER NOTES 'DISQUIETING' LEVEL OF BORROWING BY BANKS

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 May 85 pp 1, 8

[Article by Moazzem Hossain]

[Text] High level of borrowings by the scheduled banks from the central bank has emerged as a fresh disquieting phenomenon on the monetary front. Increased borrowings from Bangladesh Bank under various refinance operations have provided the commercial banks, mostly the public sector ones, an extra-cushion to augment credit operations beyond their own resources.

Scheduled banks' borrowings from the central bank recorded a net growth of over Taka 670 crores during the first ten months of the current fiscal 1984-85. Such borrowings during the corresponding period last fiscal year showed a net decline of about Taka 140 crores.

Along with increased borrowings from the central bank, the commercial banks' financing of credit operations in the public sector registered a sharp rise in fiscal 1984-85. Despite the reduced size of the public sector after the disinvestment programme, public sector corporations and statutory bodies continued to depend on new bank borrowings to meet their financial operations. The credits to public sector registered a net growth of over Taka 225 crores during the first ten months of the current fiscal year as against a net contraction of over Taka 425 crores in such credits to the same period during the corresponding period last year. A large part of net credit expansion to the public sector in 1984-85 is accounted for by the jute sector.

Meanwhile the monetary expansion potentials of commercial bank borrowings from the central bank so far this year has been neutralised by contractionary monetary influences originating from the foreign sector. Import operations have been maintained at a high level during the current fiscal year particularly because of massive foodgrain import procurements from abroad. Such operations have been carried out by drawing down the foreign exchange reserves which in turn have exerted the most dominant contractionary influence on money supply in 1984-85. Latest information from Bangladesh Bank suggested that the net contractionary influence on money supply from foreign sector during the first ten months of the current fiscal year was to the tune of Taka 416 crores.

But, the Government instead of borrowing directly from the banks, has so far conveniently shifted a part of its own financial obligations on account of public sector corporations to the nationalised commercial banks. The banks'

investments in the public sector in the form of debenture financing recorded a net growth of Taka 285 crores during the first ten months of the current fiscal year. This debenture financing by banks for the public sector bodies and statutory corporations provided the development funds under the annual development programme for the latter. Together with credits and investments, the banks funnelled thus an additional amount of Taka 510 crore to the public sector bodies.

Bangladesh bank, to note here enforced severe credit restrictive measures since January last to put some brake on sharply-accelerating monetary expansion over one and a half years time since July, 1983. Broad money in the economy increased by 42 per cent in fiscal 1983-84 alone.

The Government has so far this year refrained itself from taking recourse to any borrowings from the banking system. The Government sector showed on the other hand had a net contractionary influence to the extent of Taka 197 crores on the overall money supply till April, '85 in the current fiscal year. This would otherwise indicate that the borrowings of the government had shown a net decrease by Taka 197 crores during the period under report.

The broad money supply registered an increase by 13.8 per cent at Taka 9705.37 crores in April from Taka 8518.18 crores in June, 1984. In the broad money supply in April '85, the shares of currency outside banks demand deposits and time deposits stood at 18.18 per cent 22.76 per cent and 59.06 per cent.

The outstanding bank credits in April, '85 totalled Taka 8448.96 crores registering an increase of about 26 per cent over the level in June'84. The net growth in private sector credits and investments by the banks was recorded at Taka 1582.36 crores during the first ten months of the current financial year (1984-85) as against Taka 1161.54 crores during the corresponding period last year.

A substantial amount of net credit and investment operations in the private sector by the commercial banks during the period under report was accounted for by the agricultural sector. In the organised private manufacturing sector, the bank credits did not record much of any net growth.

CSO: 4600/1614

BANGLADESH

BRIEFS

ARAFAT STOP OVER AT DHAKA--A joint PLO Jordanian delegation led by the PLO Chairman, Yasser Arafat made a brief stop over at the Zia International Air port in early hours on Monday morning. The other members of the delegation were the First Vice Prime Minister and the Vice Prime Minister of Jordan reports BSS. The PLO Jordanian delegation was returning from China. The delegation was received and seen off at the airport by the Information Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Barrister A R Yusuf. During the stop over the PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat discussed with the Minister the outcome of his China visit and requested the Minister to convey the same to President Ershad. He informed the Minister that he had met Mr Deng Xiaoping Mr Zhao Ziyang Prime Minister and other Chinese leaders and that his visit was very successful. The PLO Chairman conveyed his deep personal regard and profound gratitude for President Ershad and Bangladesh people's support for the cause of Palestinians. The Information Minister conveyed to the PLO Chairman the Bangladesh President's warm and deep regards. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 14 May 85 p 1]

AID FROM UK--Britain has pledged 50 million pound sterling in new grant-in-aid to Bangladesh a British High Commission Press release stated on Monday quoting an announcement by the British Overseas Development Administration reports BSS. British Overseas Development Minister Timothy Raison announced the commitment to continue British aid to Bangladesh at a meeting of World Bank donors held in Paris this week the Press release stated. Of the total grant in aid 40 million pound sterling would be utilized by Bangladesh to finance schemes already identified which are likely to be signed in the current fiscal year. While the rest of the aid amounted to 10 million pound sterling would cover the cost of imports of essential goods under a new commodity aid agreement. Britain which has been a major source of foreign aid for Bangladesh extended to the latter aids worth over 35 million pounds sterling in 1984. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 14 May 85 p 1]

INDIANS 'KIDNAP' BANGLADESHI--Maulvibazar May 13:--A contingent of Indian BSF personnel intruded into Bangladesh territory near the Chatlapur check post of Kulaura Upazila on May 7. It is learnt that one Masabbir Ali of village Chandpur under Sharifpur Union was taken away by BSF at the border demarcation pillar number 1863 from Bangladesh territory in front of Bangladesh Customs and Immigration checkpost. Mr Masabbir Ali alias Mosoi went to see his standing paddy crops when he was forcibly taken away by the BSF in presence

of the Bangladesh Immigration personnel. Masabbir Ali was not released and his fate was not known as yet. The BSF patrol party was loitering within Bangladesh territory in broad day light. When contacted our Immigration staff said that the BSF personnel are often seen patrolling within our area along the border and their activities have recently been intensified. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 14 May 85 p 7]

RATION SYSTEM PANEL--A 14-member national committee on rationing system has been formed with the Energy and Mineral Resources Minister, Mr Anwar Hussain as its president, reports BSS. The committee will formulate specific recommendations on the government's food policy after reviewing the pros and cons of the country's statutory rationing system. The committee will submit its report by July 31 next. The members of the committee are: Food Minister Maj Gen Mohabbatjan Chowdhury, Agriculture and Forests Minister Maj Gen M A Munim, Finance Adviser M Syeduzzaman, Food Secretary, Labour and Manpower Secretary, Defense Secretary, Vice-Chancellor, Dhaka University, Vice-Chancellor, Engineering University, President, Bangladesh Sangbatik Samity, Chairman Bangladesh Orthoniti Samity, President, Dhaka Bar Association, President, Federation of Chamber of Commerce and President Jatiya Mohila Sangstha. Food Secretary A. K. M. Kamaluddin Chowdhury will act as the Secretary of the committee. [Text] [Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 14 May 85 pp 1, 8]

NEW SWEDISH AMBASSADOR--Sweden has appointed Miss Eva Heckscher as its Ambassador to Bangladesh the Foreign Office announced in Dhaka on Wednesday reports BSS. Prior to her present assignment Miss Heckscher was a Director Political Department Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Born on January 20 1936 she was the Editor of the Swedish Information Service in New York during 1966-68 and the Editor Information Division Swedish Foreign Affairs Ministry Stockholm from 1968 to 1971. She also held other important positions under the Swedish Foreign Ministry at home and abroad. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 16 May 85 p 5]

ENVOY FROM KUWAIT--The Ambassador-designate of Kuwait to Bangladesh Mr. Ahmad Murshed, presented his credentials to the President and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad at Banglabhaban Monday morning, reports BSS. Presenting his letter of credence the new Ambassador expressed the hope that during his tenure of office the existing friendly ties and cooperation between the two countries will be further strengthened to the mutual benefit of the two brotherly peoples. Reciprocating the sentiments, President Ershad assured Mr. Murshed to all possible help and cooperation in the smooth discharge of his duties. Earlier on arrival at Banglabhaban, the Kuwaiti Ambassador was given a guard of honour by the President's Guard Regiment. He took the salute and inspected the guard. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 14 May 85 p 3]

AMBASSADOR TO YUGOSLAVIA--Bangladesh Ambassador to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY), Mr. Khurshid Hamid, presented his credentials to the President of SFRY Presidency, Mr. Veselin Djuranovic, in Belgrade on Friday according to a message received in Dhaka on Saturday, reports BSS. Receiving the credentials Mr. Djuranovic assured Ambassador Hamid of all possible support to the strengthening of bilateral friendship and cooperation between his country and Bangladesh. Emphasising mutual respect, understanding

and lasting values of friendship between the two countries he said Yugoslavia was prepared to cooperate on every initiatives on the bilateral plans which stemmed from the long-term interest of two peoples. Earlier, presenting his credentials Ambassador Hamid apprised President Djuranovic of the measures taken by Bangladesh Government to revitalise country's economy and improve the quality of life of people. He also underscored the need for expanding cooperation in various fields between the two countries. Ambassador Hamid also conveyed the greetings of President Ershad to President Djuranovic and the Government and people of Yugoslavia. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 13 May 85 p 3]

SUPPORT FROM JAPAN--Bangkok, May 3:--The Adviser for Finance, Mr. M. Syeed-uzzaman had a meeting with the Japanese Finance Minister, Mr Nobary Takeshita and discussed with him issues relating to bilateral economic relations and co-operation between the two countries here recently, reports BSS. Mr. Takeshita assured the Adviser of continued Japanese support for more Japanese assistance in form of grant, the needs of the private sector and expressed hope for further cooperation with Bangladesh in future. The Finance Adviser who was leading the Bangladesh delegation at the annual meeting of ADB, also met Minister Perrin Beatty, leader of the Canadian delegation. Appreciating Canada's role as the second largest food aid donor to Bangladesh the Adviser urged the Canadian Minister for a new multi-year food agreement. The credit line to the private sector through industrial development financing institutions of Bangladesh was also requested. Other issues discussed include Canadian support for the Asian Development Fund, its Substantial New Programme of Action (SNPA) for the LDCs. They also discussed issues relating to the imbalance of trade between the two countries and greater excess of Bangladesh exports particularly for items like textiles, readymade garments, leather and leather products. Mr. M. Moniruzzaman, Secretary, External Resources Division, was also present during the discussion. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 4 May 85 p 1]

AMBASSADOR TO NORWAY--The government on Wednesday appointed Maj Gen Mizammel Hussain as the Bangladesh Ambassador to Norway, a Foreign Office announcement said, reports BSS. Gen Hussain, who is at present Bangladesh ambassador to Sweden, will be concurrently accredited to Norway. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 16 May 85 p 3]

BORDER RESIDENT KILLED--Meherpur, May 6: A Bangladeshi citizen belonging to border village Khashmahal under Gangee upazila was killed by Indian miscreants last Friday. The victim Al Amin Khan (22) went to neighbouring village Paksey under Karimpur thana of India last Thursday accompanied by one of his Indian friends. [Text] [Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 7 May 85 p 1]

INDIANS STEEL CATTLE--Chapainawabganj, May 4: A gang of Indian milkmen trespassed into Bangladesh territory at Gomastapur upazila under Chapainawabganj district and kidnapped four Bangladeshi farmers and snatched away some heads of cattle. Besides, 25/30 dwelling houses were burnt and 30 bighas paddy field were also damaged by the intruders. It is learnt that a gang of Indian milkmen intruded into Bangladesh territory at the beel of

Hamdalpur mauja under Randhanagor union, Gomastapur and kidnapped four Bangladeshi farmers from the paddy field while they were working in respective fields. On their way back, they damaged 300 bighas of paddy field by releasing heads of cattle in the field on April 25 last. It is also learnt that some cattleheads were snatched away and 25/300 houses burnt by the Indian miscreants at Sonatala under Bangabari Union Parishad on the same day. [Text] [Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 7 May 85 p 2]

CSO: 4600/1616

INDIA

BUDAPEST TELEVISION INTERVIEWS GANDHI ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

LD031036 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1925 GMT 2 May 85

[From the "Panorama" program; interview with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, by correspondent Gyorgy Kalmar in New Delhi; Gandhi remarks in English with superimposed Hungarian translation; time of interview not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] I know that you are going to Washington and you will be meeting American leaders. Do you think you will be able to persuade the Americans not to arm Pakistan and to change their attitude toward the Indian subcontinent?

[Answer] We will talk to them and we will discuss the situation with them. We will also bring to light the problems as we see them. I have put our standpoint forward very clearly both in Parliament and in the course of various interviews. No one can have any doubt in their minds, neither in the United States nor elsewhere in the world, as to what our standpoints are on concrete issues. As far as Pakistan is concerned, our view is--and, perhaps, it is different from the U.S. view--that this particular neighbor of ours is receiving quantities of arms that are far in excess of its needs. We can also see them experimenting with nuclear weapons and we can also see that nothing is being done by anyone to put an end to these tests. We, too, have a nuclear capability but we refrain from the production of nuclear weapons. It is nearly 11 years since we exploded a nuclear device for peaceful use, yet we have not developed nuclear weapons. We keep away from that possibility. In our experience the nuclear technology that Pakistan applies in the production of nuclear weapons is not its own but originates mainly in the Western countries.

It is claimed that Pakistan is being armed to counterbalance the Soviet presence in Afghanistan. Yet, this is an inconsistent argument in itself. I am sure that it is extremely unpleasant for the Afghan Government that on the other side of the border large, well-armed guerrilla forces are stationed. This fact makes all solutions more difficult and more lengthy and the United States should take this fact into account.

[Question] Do you think there is a possibility that the Americans may change their attitude toward the Indian subcontinent?

[Answer] I don't see any possibility of an immediate change. Yet, in the longer term, it is not impossible.

[Question] You want to change a great many things in internal policies, the economy, and in numerous other areas. Do you think that there is also, perhaps, a need for a change in Indian-Soviet relations?

[Answer] Our relations have always been extremely good. We would like to continue and develop this further. Ours has been a longstanding friendship. In a certain sense it began even before the achievement of our independence. After all, the leaders of the Congress Party watched with great interest the Soviet revolution and the development of the USSR. Later, the USSR became a partner of key importance for us when we established our own industry and developed India's heavy industry. When we have difficulties with other countries, the Soviets helped us in building our steel mills. Later, when this friendship was further developed we signed a friendship treaty and since then our relations have developed even more. I hope that our friendship will become even stronger.

[Question] So, you do not think that these relations should be changed in any respect?

[Answer] We can develop cooperation in so many different fields. We can broaden our cultural contacts, increase our trade and we can increase exchanges of all kinds. All this is advancing in a more and more favorable direction.

[Question] In your view, what can be done to improve our relations? If you ask me, I would say that there are still many tasks in this area.

[Answer] Yes, indeed, there are a lot of opportunities. Our relations with Hungary have been established for a very long time. They go back to Korosi-Csoma's [Hungarian Indologist] time through Tagore and to one of our best painters, Amrita Shergil, who was of Hungarian origin. And even if I refer to my own family, [name indistinct] Nehru's wife is also Hungarian. We cooperate in the industrial sphere, but there are still a great many unexploited opportunities. We should do a great deal more in this area, too. We want to improve our relations in every field. We would like to increase cultural exchange, economic cooperation, and would also like to see more visits between the two countries.

[Question] Does that also include a visit to Hungary by the Indian prime minister?

[Answer] Certainly.

CSO: 4600/1602

IRAN

KHAMENE'I: CLERGY MUST PUBLICIZE UNITY BY ACTION

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 8 May 85 p 3

[Text] A number of clergymen from West Azarbaijan and Sistan va Baluchestan met yesterday with Hojjat ol-Eslam va-ol-Moslemin Khamene'i. The presidential public relations office reports that at this meeting the president began by offering greetings on the anniversary of the birth of His Holiness Baqiyatollah al-'Azm, and then spoke to the audience concerning the Imam's latest speech. He said: The Imam's latest speech was like rain giving life to everyone in the world. He added: You clergymen are from two areas where Shi'ite and Sunni brothers strive together. The people learn the lesson of religion from clergymen, and their actions are more instructive to them than their guidance can be. The clergy must promote unity through their actions, but if the clergy are divided among themselves, the people will be divided as well. An aware approach must be taken today to unity between the various schools of Islam. On an intellectual basis there is no reason for Shi'ites and Sunnis not to pursue unity, while the enemies of religion are trying to bring Islam and the Koran into question. It is a mistake for Muslim groups to be divided.

In another portion of his talk, Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i continued: The first principle of Islam is the same for all Muslims, and what is being threatened is this same first principle; factionalism is not being threatened. The issue is that world imperialism and those seeking domination are worried about the revitalization of Islam and the emergence of an Islamic community. Muslims can and do live together despite differences between sects. Intellectually, the ulema of Islam may be assured of God's contentment with their unity. There is no doubt that when factional strife between Muslims leads to domination by foreigners, the West, and the enemies of Islam, this is ugly and forbidden.

In another portion of his speech, Hojjat ol-Eslam va-ol-Moslemin Khamene'i discussed the effects of the Islamic revolution on the people of the world. He said: The appearance of the Islamic revolution and the ascendancy of Islam in Iran was able to awaken Muslims of East and West. In every part of the world where Muslims are a majority or a minority, groups have appeared inspired by the true Islam, which the Western world has tried to call the foundation of Islam. After the triumph of the Islamic revolution a powerful Islamic movement has come into being which world imperialism vigorously opposes, because the primary target of this movement is world imperialism and America.

The president then discussed the world imperialist plot to prevent unity between Shi'ites and Sunnis. He said: The best way that world imperialism has found to combat Islam was to call the Islamic revolution of Iran the Shi'ite revolution. They have claimed in their propaganda that the Iranian revolution is calling the people to Shi'ism. To deal with this, Shi'ite and Sunni leaders must declare that our revolution calls the people to Islam and Islamic unity.

The president added: If we want true unity, the ulema must step forward; if we want the people to come together, the ulema must come together and join hearts.

He then discussed the plots of the agents of reaction against the Islamic revolution. He said: In some places petroleum money is being used for propaganda and books against our revolution, and by people who consider themselves Islamic leaders, and against a country which is the only country in the world whose constitution requires all laws to follow Islam.

Continuing his talk, the president referred to the so-called Islamic Conference in Baghdad. He added:

In Baghdad they assemble those who pretend to religious knowledge with the power of money; these people who assemble at the invitation of an arrogant oppressor who is not committed to Islam and who is superficial and proud of his infidelity, are gathered at a place where there are no Muslim ulema.

Can an Islamic assembly be formed at the invitation of someone who commits these acts of oppression, and someone who has started such a war, and against an Islamic society? These are court ulema, who have no individuality, and are unlikely to have any credibility among their own people.

In conclusion, the president called upon the ulema of Islam to sincerely strive for unity of speech and to work for unity of action, because world imperialism has worked and continues to work against this unity.

9310

CSO: 4640/579

IRAN

KHAMENE'I URGES SUSTAINED CAMPAIGN AGAINST ILLITERACY

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 25 Apr 85 p 3

[Text] With a speech by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the two-day seminar of the experts on literacy affairs began its work yesterday in the Prime Minister's Office.

In this seminar, in which a number of the representatives of the Majlis; the minister of education; Shari'atmadari, a member of the supreme council of the cultural revolution; and a number of educational experts were present, after recitation of verses from the Koran, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohsen Qara'ati, the director of the literacy movement, presented a brief report on the work of the movement and said: The literacy movement has thus far been able to absorb 3 million illiterate persons to the movement's classes, of which number 1 million have received certificates, but this is not enough.

He added: In Iran, there are 20,000-30,000 villages without schools. To eliminate illiteracy, 88 different plans have been offered in various areas of education methodology by education experts.

Then President Khamene'i said in a speech: Even if we have shortages of experts and specialists, fortunately, we have no shortages in education and literacy; we have competent and experienced teachers.

Mr Khamene'i then added: The issue of illiteracy is, in fact, a shameful scar on a nation and the officials of a country. But, unfortunately, we are left with this scar today. Then, concerning the abuses of the previous regime, he said: Why was illiteracy not eliminated? Despite all the claims and propaganda and the literacy corps of the previous regime, illiteracy still remained as a shameful scar. You are certainly aware of the policies of that regime; it is clear that this was a conspiracy made up of two elements, deception and abuses, by the regime of the tyrant. If the regime (of the past) were truly going to do

something about illiteracy, the percentage of illiterates should have been much less, 10 percent, for instance.

Mr Khamene'i then added: Our nation seeks culture and knowledge. Besides schools and traditional school houses, there are so many sources, assemblies and religious centers, which are all bases for education. But a society so interested in education could not achieve an acceptable level of literacy. He then continued: In the Islamic government, the officials of the literacy movement are mostly involved in the education profession.

Mr Qara'ati said in his report that about 3 million illiterates have registered, but only one-third of that number have received certificates and become literate. We have not succeeded in this area.

In another part of his speech, Mr Khamene'i added: In revolutions, usually one source of pride is the issue of literacy. The imposed war has taken away much of our manpower and resources and we have not advanced in eliminating illiteracy. We must think about the future. If we are unable to eliminate illiteracy, not only will the officials of the Islamic Republic be harmed, but the revolution itself as well. He then added: All organizations and the whole system must strive in the area of illiteracy. To resolve this problem, several stages must be passed, the first of which is to understand literacy methodology. As was said, you have 88 proposals at your disposal and you should combine the methods and offer a comprehensive plan. The second phase concerns principles, decision making and studying this system. I think that the ways and work should be discussed in detail in the Cabinet, in which we will also clarify the duties of every organization. It should not be thought that the Ministry of Education and the literacy movement alone are responsible in this issue; the resources of the Ministries of Guidance and Culture and Higher Education, the Voice and Vision and other sectors must also be utilized.

He then referred to attracting the people's attention to building schools and developing education and said: Although the government must make investments in this area, it must rely on people in the issue of literacy, and the people are ready for this.

I have said more than once in the Friday prayer sermon that charitable persons should volunteer in this issue and some help has been provided. If our revolution relies on the people, these people must be able to expand their knowledge. He added: The roots of illiteracy must be eliminated and the problem must be resolved in any way possible. For the preservation of the revolution and the perpetuation of the results of this seminar, the president added: Appoint a committee as a follow up

committee and on regular basis follow up the results of the seminar and also keep in touch with the Majlis committee.

Then Seyyed Akbar Parvaresh, research deputy director of the literacy movement, spoke on fighting illiteracy. This seminar continues today as well and will conclude its work with a resolution.

10,000

CSO: 4640/571

IRAN

MUSAVI DETAILS WAR, ECONOMY, FRENCH, RUSSIAN RELATIONS

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 19 May 85 p 4

[Text]

TEHRAN — Prime Minister Mir Hussein Musavi held a televised press conference here last week attended by Iranian and foreign journalists. In this press interview, the prime minister answered a number of questions on the status of the Iraq-Iran war, U.N. efforts to end the war, the internal economic situation, relations with Persian Gulf states, the USSR, and France, presidential elections, the Freedom Movement, etc. highlights of the premier's statements follow:

On the Apparent Lull in the Iraq-Iran War

The Islamic combatants of Iran are prepared to advance for the fulfillment of the legitimate rights of the Iranian nation, the establishment of justice, and to move in the path which has been set from the very beginning. Whenever the interests of the nation deem it necessary, the Iranian forces will take the necessary initiatives in the battle fronts.

On U.N. Efforts to End the War

The recent stance of the U.N. Security Council, despite being conservative, was an indication of its moving towards reality. If the Security Council explicitly

condemns the Iraqi aggression against our country, grounds would be certainly paved for our attendance in the Security Council to discuss the stance of the Islamic Republic.

Furthermore, if the Security Council moves towards following up the eight point plan proposed by the U.N. Secretary General Javier Peres de Cuellar, Iran would be ready to take part in Security Council proceedings.

On Internal Economy and Inflation

I think despite our being involved in a war the inflation rate in our country is not even comparable with other countries in the region which are not involved with a war. Our government has scored a significant victory in checking the inflation rate. Last year (March 1984-March 1985) the inflation rate here was about 10.5% which is very low with respect to a war time situation... But there are other countries in which the inflation rate hits somewhere in the vicinity of 400%.

— Another peculiarity of our economy which deserves to be heeded by others is that we have not taken loans from any foreign sources. We rank first among the Third World

nations for having received no external loans. This is a source of pride to the Islamic Republic. Meanwhile we do not have any unsolvable problem in relation with our economy. Problems there are, but not so serious as to cause any major concern...

On Relations With the Persian Gulf and Middle East Countries

We establish our relations with Middle East countries on the basis of the interests of the Middle East nations rather than those of the superpowers. We have declared time and again that we look forward to establishing closer ties with the countries of the region, relations aimed at enhancing the growth and progress of our countries. This is especially true in relations with the Persian Gulf states, the majority of which have aligned themselves with Saddam. We have said time and again that our country has grown into the principal power in the region.

We would like them (the Persian Gulf states) to think about their own interests and their own future before thinking about the interests of the United States and other big powers in the region. Once they should heed our advice they shall have the best possible rela-

tions with us... There are countries in the region which have very friendly relations with us...

The Persian Gulf Cooperation Council is in practice at the service of the United States and has put its facilities and espionage equipment at the disposal of Iran's enemies. This council will be successful only when it places itself alongside the people of the region and becomes free from the yoke of the U.S.

As for Afghanistan our stand has always been clear-cut. We are against the presence in Afghanistan of any foreign forces. We deem it our responsibility to support the aspirations of the Muslim people of Afghanistan. Today our nation is hosting almost some 1.5m Afghans. We look forward to witnessing the return of the right of the sovereignty of Afghanistan to the Afghans. We have always made it clear that the presence in Afghanistan of Soviet troops would serve as a pretext for the United States to bolster its forces in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf.

Already the United States tends to justify its presence in the region because of the presence in Afghanistan of Soviet troops. We are of the opinion that in the meanwhile the United States reaps greater advantages than does the Soviet Union... This was and still is our stand towards the situation in Afghanistan... Our outlook is logical and in accord with the principles of our faith and I think it will continue to be our country's outlooks for all time in the future...

On Stationing of American

AWACS Planes in Iraq

There is no precise infor-

mation available in this respect. Every few hours the U.S. provides Iraq with information about Iranian forces, which it gathers through satellite reconnaissance. Also reactionary states in the region put the information they receive through satellites at the disposal of the Baghdad regime.

On Iran-France Relations

Currently we are witnessing a certain moderation in France's attitude towards us, though it is still far from being substantial... We have discussed several issues with the French government, among them a one billion dollar loan which it continues not to repay and which must be returned to us. I would like to make it clear here that as long as France has not responded to us in relation with this issue it can hardly expect any improvement in Iran-France relations.

We have also noted certain developments in France in relation with the activities of the counterrevolution. It was all too obvious from the outset that the supercilious world powers were behind them. But gradually they (the big powers) despaired of the counterrevolution in France and it is likely that the situation prompted the French government to adopt a moderate stand. We look upon this change in France's outlook as evidencing a somewhat more realistic outlook on the part of the French government. We always wondered why such countries should reach such perverted understanding (of the situation in Iran) as to count on the potential of this or that (emigre) group (in France).

The (dissident emigre)

groups in France once contended that the Islamic system of government would shortly disintegrate and that they would take the reins of a new government here. We had reason to believe that the French government, as well as the U.S. government and other countries believed in the truth of such evaluations and this being their outlook, it prompted them to support the dissident (Iranian) groups... But that is now an old story.

It seems that as the counterrevolution disintegrated from within, and since they (the dissidents) failed to demonstrate any efficacy in furthering their own causes then they (France and certain foreign governments) have now reached a more realistic analyses in relation with the capacity of the system of the Islamic government in Iran. In view of such developments it is only natural that we should now witness the adoption of a more moderate and flexible stand towards us by the French government, but as far as it relates to our attitude, it is precisely what I said.

On Relations With the Soviet Union

We are maintaining ties within the framework of good neighborly relations. The Soviet Union has adopted a more realistic outlook towards issues related to the war and other matters. Prior to the victory of the (1979) Islamic Revolution Iran's political and economic relations were inclined towards the West. At present the Islamic Republic has outstanding relations with the Soviet Union and has decided to further expand

these ties. On the question as to whether I or the foreign minister would visit the Soviet Union this year, no decision has so far been taken in this respect.

On the Unbalanced Stance Taken by the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) on the Iraq-Iran War

The reason that the OIC has failed in its efforts so far is that the organization has not practically adopted a just stance vis-a-vis the war. It did not condemn the aggressor from the very beginning, nor did it identify the aggressor. If the OIC had done so (condemned the aggressor) the Islamic states and governments would certainly play a very effective role in connection with the war and find proper solutions for the conflict. There is recently new hope that the new secretary general of the OIC might take a more equitable attitude which could help further activate the Islamic states and the OIC itself.

On Kuwaiti Plane's Hijacking to Tehran

This plane belongs to Kuwait and will be handed over to the government of that country as soon as the necessary conditions are provided.

On Recent Demonstrations in Several Iranian Cities

They were not as widespread as portrayed by the world mass media. In Tehran

there was something downtown linked with moral and cultural issues which the people confronted and it was over. In other cities too there were some demonstrations against the Western style of dress which was protested by some people. We can conclude (from these events) that it was a warning by the people themselves against the return of Western codes in the society because our system is based deeply in the Islamic culture.

On Presidential Elections

Our nation attaches great significance to all elections and they have proven this practically. They regard this as a religious duty and their all-out participation in the elections has enabled us to establish our legal institutions with unprecedented speed. Our expectation of the people for participation in the forthcoming presidential elections is that they will definitely take part in these elections wholeheartedly.

On the Freedom Movement:

There are still some people inside our country who are greatly influenced by the U.S. The political position taking of these individuals in fact, are coordinated with oppressive attitudes at the international level. In the documents seized from the U.S. spy den (former American embassy in Tehran) there is a reference to one of these

individuals who is described as attaching great significance to America's judgement about Iran.

There was recently wide scale activity worldwide against the war and aimed at imposing a peace upon us which would guarantee U.S. interests in the region. Simultaneously they (Freedom Movement) thought as if something had happened and therefore began to adopt similar positions. But this position-taking was practically foiled thanks to the people's presence in the scene.

There is no obstacle in the way for Mr. (Mehdi) Bazar-gan (former prime minister) and other gentlemen to participate in the forthcoming presidential elections. They too can take part in the elections on the basis of the framework set by the constitution and no body would disturb them. They can hold interviews with the mass media representatives as they did and brought the worst accusations against the system (the Islamic Republic). But as it was seen, the system did not protest against them. But sometimes when they stand against the people, the people themselves take action.

Where in the world would you find individuals who dare to speak against a war particularly under conditions that an entire world has been mobilized against a nation which is embroiled in it.

IRAN

COMMERCIAL TRADE WITH USSR TO REACH 2 BILLION DOLLARS

Tehran BURS in Persian 8 Apr 85 pp 1-2

[Text] During the Islamic Republic of Iran's deputy minister of foreign affairs' visit to Moscow, it was agreed that the economic ministers of Iran and USSR meet in a joint session in the next three months in order to study and discuss the increasing expansion of the two countries' relations. It is anticipated that the volume of trade between Iran and the USSR will reach 2 billion dollars in the current year. Kazem-Pur Ardabili, economic and international affairs deputy minister of the ministry of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran before his return to Tehran met with Sergeychik, the director of the government economic cooperation council of the USSR and they had a discussion for one and half hours. According to IRNA, in this meeting the Soviet representative referred to previous Soviet-Iranian economic and industrial relations which up to now has 112 projects in operational stages. They also discussed the means for completing other Soviet-Iranian projects.

He expressed Iran's consent to expand Soviet-Iranian relations and cooperation. At the conclusion of this visit, our country's deputy minister for economic and international affairs of the ministry of foreign affairs referred to the expansion of relations and the volume of trade exchanged between the two nations which will reach 2 billion dollars during the current year and he also expressed Iran's consent to the uniqueness of the implemented cooperation projects. In these projects, the foundation of industrial projects and formation of industries which will have a strong role in the economic growth of Iran were considered. According to this report, in this meeting the two parties agreed to prepare the groundwork for the trip of the preliminary expert mission of the joint committee of both countries to Moscow in the month of August. Kazem-Pur-Ardabili, who arrived in Moscow Friday morning, met Mr Gromyko, the Soviet minister of foreign affairs the day before yesterday and for two hours discussed relations of the two countries, their expansion of international affairs and the rightful position of Iran in regard to the imposed war.

9815
CSO: 4640/539

IRAN

BRITAIN BLASTED FOR BLAMING IRAN ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 8 May 85 p 20

[Text] In the heat of the days in the UN Security Council-- finally, more than four years after the imposed war on Iran, under the pressure of the public opinion of the humanitarians of the world and the numerous irrefutable documents that shook the world, and in spite of the discontent of the permanent members of the Council (the United States, England, France, the Soviet Union and China)--when the UN secretary general put his finger on such discontent and implicitly, without mentioning the government of Iraq by name, condemned the use of chemical weapons against the Islamic combatants, it was reported in the news that 150 members of the representatives of the monarchical Parliament of Great Britain asked Mrs Margaret Thatcher in a communique to impose pressure on the government of Iran to observe human rights!

This is not the first time that in the height of events which prove the Islamic Republic of Iran to be right and oppressed, the leaders of oppression have tried desperately, by raising ridiculous issues, to redirect world public opinion and cover up, so they think, the truth and facts with the dust that they raise. Now, the mission of raising dust is conferred on the Parliament of the old mane-less, tail-less and belly-less lion of colonialism, whose history of today and yesterday is saturated with the unjust spilling of the blood of the colonialized and plundering, from one end of the world to the other.

It is noteworthy that the world has not yet forgotten the countless violations of human rights against the brave Irish strugglers by the monarchical government of England and not long has passed since the heart-rending death of the great struggler "Bobby Sands," who was guilty of nothing but seeking his rights and liberation, requesting the implementation and observation of the "human rights law." Still, those who seek freedom and the observation of human rights in Ireland and other British colonies are the targets of the bullets of the British monarchical soldiers. Under such circumstances, the representatives of the British Parliament have become, as usual, the wet nurses more

loving than a mother. Perhaps through these recognized deceptions they are trying to direct world opinion and that of the British people away from the sad economic situation, numerous problems and difficulties and in some cases, the insoluble political, economic and social problems of England. They probably think that by issuing such ridiculous communiques and announcements they are saying to the British citizens: "Now, we and our people and government (England) enjoy such conditions of peace, tranquility, growth, culture and democracy that the direction of our political measures and democratic and humanitarian actions reach beyond our borders, and now that we have peace of mind in regards to the situation and conditions of you beloved compatriots, we intend to demand human principles of all the people in the world, because in the course of history we have been the 'guardians' of mankind throughout the world. As history is witness, we have had to bring many countries, over land, sea and air, under our democratic umbrella and then, after the contents of the 'human rights law' are fully implemented, leave them to themselves!"

There is no one to ask these defenders of human rights why they pretend to be asleep and do not call for human rights when the brutal regime of Iraq again and again barbarously attacks the residential areas, and in every attack, unjustly martyr dozens of children, women and innocent civilians. Under such circumstances, the innocent city of Dezful alone has been attacked by the missiles of this bloodthirsty regime more than 150 times; under the circumstances that the combatants who are wounded by the chemical weapons used by the Ba'thist regime are sent to the hospitals of the world and the martyrdom of each is a shaking and revealing document for mankind, when the 'Aflaqi regime of Saddam has over and over ignored and trampled all the international agreements and standards whose ultimate goal is to defend human rights, and when the counterrevolutionaries and the miserable heartless engage in bombing various parts of Islamic Iran and through their brutal actions martyr a number of innocent people, particularly the women and children, as the target of their enmities and atrocities? Are all of these crimes and is all this slaughter, these evil acts and this barbarism not violations of human rights?

Can it not be considered a violation of human rights when in England the proven rights of nearly 3 million Muslims are ignored and in a country that claims to fully carry out the fundamentals of democracy, these Muslims are not given the right to be elected to the Parliament?

When the forces of Great Britain, bullying and with total disregard for international standards, add the "Falkland" Islands to their colonies and not only ignore the rights of the people and government of Argentina but ignore the true wishes of the

residents of these islands, can such action be called anything but the open violation of human rights?

We wish these honorable people and their allies throughout the world would publish a new dictionary explaining what they mean by "human" and "human rights" and that they would not "serve" us and "bother" themselves about us.

10,000

CSO: 4640/592

IRAN

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC'S COMMITMENT TO SEVER IMPERIALISTS FROM REGION

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 14 May 85 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text]

Iran has endangered the interests of the U.S. and its western and regional allies, admitted the Iraqi ambassador to the United States Nizar Hamdoun in an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper Al Anba. He also declared that the policies of the ruling regime in Baghdad were tailored by the U.S. government. This, of course, is not something new to the Iranian nation and the authorities of the Islamic Republic. From the day the great movement of Islamic Revolution, attended by millions of Muslim Iranians, rose against the shah's regime, it rocked not only the region but the whole world. It was clear to all nations that this movement would be the beginning of a change leading to discontinuation of the plundering of global oppression headed by the United States.

The statement made by the Iraqi ambassador indicates that Baghdad's rulers and their allies have been informed of the impending downfall of this regime. The imposing of the war against the Islamic Republic by the Baghdad regime took place in order to enable the U.S. to counter and suppress the Islamic Revolution with an eye to preserving the interests of the superpowers and to perpetrate the disgraceful rule of the U.S. lackeys in the region.

In other words, jeopardizing U.S. interests and those of its western and regional allies by the Islamic Revolution is not something new. It is in fact a bitter truth for world oppression which has been hidden in order to portray their crimes against the Islamic Revolution as humanitarian initiatives. Clearly, the

Great Satan imposed economic sanctions on Iran to bring it to its knees. It attacked Islamic Iran with its airplanes and helicopters. It organized several coup d'etats. It imposed on the nation the worst kind of terrorism by helping the Munafiqeen (MKO) and other outlawed groups. It encouraged, imposed, and supported the brutal attacks of Iraq against the Islamic Republic. After all this it is now trying to impose a peace on Iran in order to rescue itself and its allies.

Clearly all these futile efforts are aimed at making the Islamic Revolution compromise and ultimately restore U.S. strength in the region. Therefore, the statements of the Iraqi ambassador, which apparently indicate a new awareness in such a blind-hearted person, should be investigated from another angle.

In this interview the Iraqi ambassador described the support of the U.S. mass media for the Iraqi regime as very positive. The Islamic Republic has always made known that its struggle was for cutting off of U.S. hands not only from Iran and the region but from all over the world. Iran is proud of this. Among the first slogans of the Islamic Republic is the unity of Muslims and their resistance against the oppression of the superpowers. It even invites the oppressed to campaign for their usurped rights.

Nowadays, the United States wants to revive its lost greatness with its arms and military budget in order to intensify its exploitation of the world's people. In every region it enters, the United States establishes military bases, and propagates its plan of militarizing outer space, and declares war against nations in this way, hoping to regain its power and to remain at the top of pyramid of tyranny.

So why shouldn't the Islamic Revolution and the Islamic Republic jeopardize these interests? This of course is the beginning. The U.S. and all other imperialists must know that the Islamic Republic will not cease its struggle unless it has cut off their bloody hands, not only from the Persian Gulf and Middle East regions, but from the entire world.

If today the crimes of America and its European allies continue against Islamic Iran and the Muslims of the region, they should know that their interests would be at stake no matter where they may be.

It is for this very reason that the U.S. is committing a new crime against the Muslim nation of Iran each day in order to save itself. When the imposition of peace fails because of the people's resistance, the arrogant world this time resorts to bomb blasts.

Sunday's bomb explosion in downtown Tehran was in fact the response of the U.S. to the slogan of "War, War, Till Victory" of a people who have resisted the idea of a peace imposed by America. It is not hidden to anybody that the superpower's policy against the justice seeking efforts of the nations has principally turned to bomb explosions or bombardment of the people.

When the Iraqi air raids against Iran's civilian quarters and the bombardment of innocent people in dead of night failed in compelling the nation to compromise, should the U.S. and Iraq place hope in a terrorist bomb explosion? Particularly when this is not the first bomb blast by U.S. agents in Islamic Iran, definitely it will not be the last one!

The U.S. must know that if chemical bomb attacks by its subservient agent in Baghdad against the

CSO: 4600/459

IRAN

OFFICIAL DENIES RUMORS OF RETURNS OF NATIONALIZED COMPANIES

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 8 May 85 p 18

[Text] Bakhtara- KEYHAN Correspondent—Factories and companies under the jurisdiction of the National Industries Organization did more than 180 billion dollars in petroleum barter transactions with large commercial companies and firms in the second half of last year.

This was announced by Engineer Mahru, Deputy Minister of Industry and acting director of the National Industries Organization of Iran at the site of the fifth national assembly of organization officials in Bakhteran in an interview with KEYHAN's correspondent. He added: Every year in our country we need large amounts of raw materials and parts which we must pay dollars to import. In the second half of last year the superpowers were able to create a situation in which they were able to apply pressure and greatly lower the price of oil, and despite repeated OPEC conferences held in the second half of last year in search of a way to sell oil and stabilize its price, which set an official price of 29 dollars per barrel, the actual going price on the international markets was less. In view of this situation on the one hand, and of the fact that international firms, companies and merchants of various goods are motivated to earn income on the other, we decided, in order to avoid the export of currency obtained from oil sales, to barter exported oil. Several hundred million dollars in transactions of this type were made, and the Austrian Faust Albin company is one of several companies which have dealt with us in this way by providing us with merchandise we need in exchange for oil.

He added: Although the companies and firms may not make much profit purchasing oil from us, they do make the profit they want marketing their products, which is in their interest and ours. The National Industries Organization took this experience into consideration and suggested to the companies under its jurisdiction which purchase in large quantities that they conduct transactions of this type in their dealings with the big companies, thereby solving the problems of the shortage of currency and their need for raw materials.

In another portion of the interview, he discussed the number of units in the National Industries Organization. He said: Last year 70 new companies and industrial units came into the National Industries Organization, bringing the total to 500, and they are a powerful economic arm in the country for the production of various kinds of goods.

Continuing the interview, the acting director of the National Industries Organization discussed the future of industries under the organization's jurisdiction. He said: With regard to those companies and factories included in Article B of the Protection Law, their assets belong to the government, the National Industries Organization, as the government's representative, has no hesitation whatsoever. With regard to factories and companies included in Article J of the

Protection Law, which are around 200 companies and industrial units and which have huge debts to banks, the law has provided a way for banks to participate to the extent of what is owed to them, but due to problems this part of the law has been suspended. A five-person committee on the Protection Law has been named to specify ownership status; companies and units included in Article J must submit files showing the ownership status of stockholders and debtors to the five-person committee, so that decisions may be issued on an individual basis.

He then explained the composition of the committee and its method of operation. He said: The committee is composed of a religious magistrate by the Supreme Judicial Council, four Majlis representatives, the President, the National Chief Prosecutor, and the Ministry of Industry. The decision of this committee will be backed by the religious magistrate in the current committee; even a majority opinion by three members of this committee will be overruled by the opinion of the religious magistrage.

He denied the rumor that the companies and factories would be returned, and added: These rumors are totally without foundation.

We have had experience with capitalists who abandoned the country during the revolution and forced the government to place its manpower and energy at the disposal of industry, and now that the situation has improved, they have raised this issue.

Concluding the interview, he discussed the fifth national assembly of organization officials in Bakhteran, and the visit to the fronts by participants. He said: Our seminar is being held in wartime conditions in a war room; on its second day the participants will visit the fronts. The point of this is that we are fighting world imperialism on all fronts.

9310

CSO: 4640/579

IRAN

PRODUCTION INDEX UP FOR LARGE INDUSTRIES

Tehran BURS in Persian 10 Apr 85 pp 1-2

[Text] The results of the study of large industrial plants of the country for the second quarter and first six months of 1363 [21 March 1984 to 20 March 1985].

1. Production Index

The total production index of large industrial plants of the country in the second quarter of 1363 reached the figure of 203, an increase of 13.5 percent compared to the second quarter of the previous year. The machinery production industry and metal equipment production industry, the basic metal production industries and the clothing, textile, and leather production industry with production indexes of 17.9, 27 and 9.7 percent had the largest increases compared to the same period of the previous year. The combined share of these 3 groups of industries in the total production increase is 71 percent.

In the first six months of 1363, the total production index of the studied industries reached 199.4 which compared to the same period of the previous year increased 14.9 percent. In this period the machinery production industry and metal equipment production industry, the basic metal production industry and the clothing textile and leather industry reached the figure of 209, 30.9 and 10.9 percent [sic] in the production index, compared to the same period of the previous year. The total share of these three groups of industries' increase of the total production index for the first six months of 1363 was 72.7 percent.

In the first six months of 1363, gross production prices of large industrial units of the country was equal to 121.4 billion rials based on current prices and 315.9 billion rials based on 1353 [21 Mar 1974-20 Mar 1975 fixed prices which compared to the same period of the previous years is an increase of 17 and 15.3 percent.

2. Employment Index

The total employment index of large industrial units of the country (except the lump sugar industry and slaughter houses) reached 168.2 in the second

quarter of 1363 which compared to the same period of the previous year is a 5.5 percent increase.

In this period the machinery production and metal equipment production industry, basic metal production industry and clothing, textile and leather production industries, were the main factors in the growth of the employment index. The share of these three industrial groups in the growth of the total employment index was 76.8 percent.

In the first six months of 1363 the total employment index of large industries in the country reached 166.6, which compared to the same period of the previous year, is an increase of 5.9 percent. In this period, the machinery production and metal equipment production industry, the basic metal production industry and the clothing, textile, and leather industries were the main factors in the growth of the total employment index, which was 79.1 percent.

In the second quarter and first six months of 1363 the total employment index reached 167 and 165.5 which compared to the same periods of the previous year is a 5.1 and 5.5 percent increase.

In the first six months of 1984 the total employees of the studied large industries (except the lump sugar industry and slaughter houses) was an average of over 385,000 persons.

3. The wage, salary and benefit payment index of employees for the large industries of the nation (except for the lump sugar industry and slaughter houses) in the second quarter and first six months of 1363 reached 918.9 [sic] and 97.2 which compared to the same periods of the previous year is a 13.2 and 13.9 percent increase. During these two periods, the machinery production and metal equipment production industry, the basic metal production industry and the clothing, textile and leather production industries had the largest share in the increase of the total wage, salary and benefit index of employment. In the second quarter of 1363 this was 63.5 percent and during the first six months of the reporting year it was 68.2 percent.

Total salary, wage and benefit payments to employees of large industries of the nation (except the lump sugar industry and the nation's slaughter houses) in the first six months of 1363 was around 157.2 billion rials.

In the second quarter and the first six months of 1363, the total index of wage, salary, and benefit payments of employees increased by 3.7 and 7.5 percent. The total index of salary and employee benefit payments were 5.9 and 6.7 percent compared to the same period in 1362 [21 Mar 1983-20 March 1984].

9815

CSO: 4640/539

IRAN

SUCCESS IN CONTROLLING INFLATION SAID RESULT OF BASIC REFORMS

Tehran BURS in Persian 29 Apr 85 pp 1, 8

[Text] In a meeting with the officials of the Ministry of Plan and Budget concerning the description of the duties of this Ministry, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi emphasized the efforts of this Ministry to understand and rely on the social customs and called the attention of the experts of this Ministry to continuous study in various political, social and cultural dimensions and the necessity of not attending merely to economic aspects. According to a report by the IRNA correspondent, the deputies and directors of the Ministry of Plan and Budget accompanied by Mr Zanjani, the head of this Ministry, met with Prime Minister Musavi.

In this meeting, first the director of plan and budget presented a report on the existing situation with regard to this Ministry. Then the prime minister, pointing out that changing the Plan and Budget Organization into a ministry makes more visible the need for coordination and unity by preserving the revolutionary spirit, he said: Given the necessity of the plan and budget experts and officials being informed of the problems of various sectors, we must pay attention to the sensitivity of this Ministry. The effects of the financial policies on all aspects of the movement of our society is an important consideration, because every financial and economic policy has vast political, social and cultural repercussions. For this reason, sole attention to economic problems without consideration for its various effects must be avoided. Emphasizing that we do not believe in economy as a principle per se, a point that must always be noted, he said: There are many examples of the effects of the influence of the economic situation in the political position of countries, especially in the Persian Gulf region, and despite the conspiracies that take place to prevent the Iranian oil exports and create political and economic problems for us, we have been able to reduce the rate of inflation growth under the war conditions from about 19 percent during the period 21 March 1983-20 March 1984 to less than 12 percent during the period 21 March 1984-20 March 1985. The success of the

government in harnessing inflation as a sign of the success of the government in carrying out essential reforms can be noted. The prime minister pointed out: The activities of the Ministry of Plan and Budget are very extensive and the efforts to understand social customs and rely on them in planning is among the duties of this Ministry. The Ministry of Plan and Budget plans for a society that has changed its value system and is governed by new ones. Therefore, the new value system must be studied scientifically and the changes in the value system must be fundamentally identified. If this does not take place, the planning will not conform totally to reality. If we are not on the same course with the society, it will fail, because such a program cannot be a proper tool to use for the advancement of the society. Mr Musavi then pointed out that the efforts that have taken place in this area are very important and said: These efforts have had positive effects particularly in terms of clarifying the existing realities and the logical relations of the various economic sectors to one another. In the wake of these efforts, today we are able to look into our future and rather than solving the daily problems and difficulties, we are able to begin to plan well ahead for the future. Emphasizing the necessity for continuous study by the experts of the Ministry of Plan and Budget in various political, social and cultural dimensions and avoidance of attention solely to economic aspects, he reminded the directors of the Ministry of Plan and Budget and other officials of the provinces of the necessity for cooperation with governors general and added: The cooperation of all the officials in every province with the governor general as the high representative of the government is necessary to stabilize the situation and create coordination in policy making. Every official in the provinces must cooperate with the governors general by considering the variety of the problems that the governors general face. At the end of his speech, the prime minister emphasized: The sense of compassion towards and cooperation with other organizations is the duty of the officials of each organization and division and this duty is more sensitive in regards to the officials of the Ministry of Plan and Budget.

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CSO: 4640/587

IRAN

MAJLIS APPROVES ALL PROVISIONS OF EXPORT-IMPORT BILL

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 7 May 85 pp 1-2

[Text] KEYHAN political service. The Majlis held an open session this morning. In this session, which was chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, after recitation of verses from the Koran, the representatives of Ilam, Masjed Soleyman, Nur and Mahmudabad spoke as pre-agenda speakers.

The first pre-agenda speaker was Mohammad Taqi Lotfi, the representative of Ilam. In his speech, he offered his congratulations on the occasion of the birthday of the Imam of the Age. In connection with the problems of his constituency, he emphasized the deprivation of Ilam Province and its involvement in the war and said: Considering the extraordinary poverty and deprivation inherited from the sinister regime of the shah's oppression, thus far, no hesitation or weaknesses have been observed in these people.

Since the beginning of the war, Ilam has been barbarously bombed by the airplanes of the 'Aflaqi regime. In addition to the heavy damages it has suffered, it has given hundreds of martyrs and thousands of disabled and wounded people to Islam and the revolution.

As a reminder to the officials of the country, he then said: I ask the honorable officials, particularly the serving government, to make more efforts to eliminate the intolerable problems of the Province, in which we have witnessed heavy damages and many difficulties.

I ask the judicial authorities to decisively deal with the climate creating and rumor spreading of the counterrevolutionaries in the region, which is widespread, and the poisonous propaganda against the beloved personalities of the revolution by those who want to destabilize the strong will and determination of the people.

I request of the reconstruction and construction officials to take the necessary steps to repair and build homes for people whose homes have been greatly damaged in the recent attacks by the airplanes of the 'Aflaqi regime as soon as possible.

He then asked the Ministry of Health to take the necessary steps to prevent dangers from harmful pests, such as snakes and scorpions, to the tent-dwellers and the refugees who live in the mountains and valleys.

In conclusion, Lotfi thanked and praised the officials of the Province, particularly the head of the war victims foundation of Ilam Province and the mayor of Ilam, who have worked hard day and night to eliminate the problems of the people.

Statements of the Representative of Masjed Soleyman

Another pre-agenda speaker of today's session of the Majlis was Mohammad Shini-Mostafa, the representative of Masjed Soleyman, who began his statements with congratulations on the birthday of the Imam of the Age. In connection with the imposed war, he said: When the self-sacrificing Muslim nation of Iran rose up to revitalize the authentic Islamic values, when under the leadership of its imam it rose up for equity and tried to make the oppressed world understand that Islam is the only center for the political and social unity of this righteous religion and nothing else, the super colonialists of the time began their greatest conspiracy in the form of the imposed war against this Hoseyn-supporting uprising, in order to, as they falsely thought, destroy the central core of this uprising and prevent the influence of the monotheistic vision of our Muslim nation among the oppressed of the world.

In another part of his speech, he said: Yes, what we are guilty of is, after centuries of forgetfulness, bringing the Koran out from the dusty corners and placing it in our hearts. Our cities are destroyed because they are no longer a safe place for foreigners and the functionaries of the East and the West. Our children are dragged through dust and blood because they learn about the love of God in schools and are mobilized for martyrdom.

He added: When our beloved combatants, following the master of the brave and free men of the world, Imam Hoseyn, attacked and eliminated the oppressors, the super criminals, headed by the Great Satan, tried to metamorphose the nature and misdirect the course of our authentic divine revolution, because they are not bothered by metamorphosed and non-political Islam and are not afraid of it. Hence, in this connection, they resorted to their agents. The participants in the pseudo-Islamic conferences, these most distinguished models of metamorphosed Islam, by relying on corrupt regimes and governments and not on the chained

nations, hurriedly and by resorting to deviated Islam, tried to find a way for their masters to come out of this marsh which they themselves had created and began to call for peace. The domestic believers in the West, who do not take any step but following Western models, and who see the yardstick for evaluating the prestige of the revolution in the world of writings and Zionist and imperialist news agencies, while the world is witnessing the victories of our self-sacrificing combatants and the misery of the helpless enemy, speak in interviews of ending the war and negotiations with the most bloodthirsty and corrupt beings in the world and call themselves the freedom movement. The world knows that the voice of the freedom movement--or better said, the movement of slavery--is not the voice of the Iranian nation but the voice of the master. The voice of the Muslim people of Iran is the voice of the people of Dezful, Masjed Soleyman, Abadan, Khorramshahr, Bakhtaran, Kurdistan and all the suffering and liberated inhabitants of our Islamic land who cry, War, war until victory, under the missiles and bombings of the Zionist enemy. Our voice is the voice of the millions of the population who cried out, Death to America, on 11 February, despite all the threats and propaganda pressures of the enemy, in Tehran and other cities and demanded the continuation of the war to victory.

The isolationists of the slavery movement who have turned their backs on the people must know that the ideals of our Islamic revolution, were they to be limited and restricted within the geographic borders made by human beings, would never have to pay such a heavy price.

The representative of Masjed Soleyman continued: Oh officials of the country, now that our generous and always-on-the-scene nation is so determined, it would be proper for you to try to ensure that the Hezbollah, to whom the revolution originally belonged, are not mistreated by one person or another. You must know that the rejection of the Hezbollah signals the coming of the opportunists. Beware of the revolution going astray. It was the Hezbollah who did not leave the revolution under the most difficult conditions and along with its imam cried out and guarded the honor of beloved Islam by giving its blood. Those who fabricate such events should fear the day that the Hezbollah see the foundations of the revolution threatened, become enraged, and fight so bravely against all manifestations of corruption and do to them what it did to the others who were more discontent. Then it would be too late for them.

Shini-Mostafa continued: Khuzestan Province has been waiting for some time to see the rule of law and divine injunctions over all its affairs, so that various methods are replaced by law. Once the noble Hezbollah people of this Province, who have never hesitated to offer their most beloved and most valuable property to protect the gains of the revolution, see that a number of

narrow-minded group supporters are making the law a plaything of its will and isolating the best forces, not because of their commitment but because they are not inclined towards the desirable spectrum, the question will justly come to their minds that perhaps some of the officials of the Province do not believe in the law of the revolution.

When they complain of the violating official to his superior in order to have justice, they are faced with his open support for the deviant person and ask themselves: Then to whom should we go in this region? And who will listen to the truth?

In the sheykh-stricken and khan-bitten villages of this province, these questions are mostly raised. Unfortunately, for some time now, these gold seekers who resort to force have once again begun their pressures on the villagers and, by relying on some officials, cause more anxiety for them than ever before.

The village of Ka'bmuzan of Ahvaz is a revealing example of this claim. After the hostile takeover of the agricultural lands by a number of former sheykhs, they went to various authorities, returned in despair and came to their representatives. But most unfortunately, when one of the honorable representatives of Ahvaz could only read the letter of the oppressed villagers and not only could not make his voice heard, but, despite the pile of documents at his disposal, was prosecuted and interrogated, the people of Ka'bmuzan concluded that since their representative could not speak, they too must keep silent, await some way out and watch the sheykh laughing at them. Hence, the only hope of the oppressed people is the imam of the nation. I ask his holiness to pay attention to this issue.

Statements of the Representative of Nur and Mahmudabad

The last pre-agenda speaker in today's session was Mehdi Hoseyninezhad, the representative of Nur and Mahmudabad.

In connection with the war, he said: Saddam, this windup doll of the region who dreamed of being the conqueror of Qadesiyyeh, after the passage of more than four years of the imposed war, has accepted shameful defeat.

The brave nation of Iran, by offering so many martyrs and self-sacrificers, will not submit to an imposed peace and until it reaches the prophetic statement of the beloved imam, "War, war to the elimination of conspiracy," it will not rest.

Hoseyninezhad then said: Administrative offices have not yet been able to carry out their mission. Still, mysterious hands are often seen which create discontent and confusion for the people and push aside the Hezbollah. The generous nation accepts

the problems resulting from the war, but it is difficult for the society to accept the pressures of high prices, lack of sufficient control over production to consumption, and lack of sufficient attention to the just distribution of goods--which are in abundance in the open market, but officials speak of their shortage, not stopping the hands of the middlemen and hoarders--and the existence of the burning actions of the economic terrorists.

Then, in connection with the insufficient attention to housing, hospitals and cooperative companies and the weakening of religious figures and Islamic societies in the offices and institutions, he pointed to the importance of agriculture and added: We all agree on transferring the factories from large cities to villages, which will result in the return of villagers and prevent their migration to cities. But not much success has been seen going from words into action.

It is necessary to mention that enumerating the factors of discontent does not mean neglecting the sincere services of the truthful and compassionate servants and the serving government in the war.

In connection with the needs of his constituency, he made a reminder to the Ministry of Energy in regards to the incompleteness of piped water for Nur and Mahmudabad and to the Supreme Judicial Council in regards to the establishment of a Justice Department in the city of Nur.

Then, he made reminders to the Ministry of Roads and the Reconstruction Crusade concerning the roads in the region, asked the Ministry of Health to send physicians to Nur and Mahmudabad, and gave reminders to the Ministries of Energy and Communication, the Voice and Vision, the organization of records and property documents and the government.

Agenda

Following the pre-agenda speeches and the reading of the reminders of the representatives, the Majlis went into session, continuing its examination of the bill on export and import regulations, which was left from the previous session. First, Article 37 of the bill was read and discussed.

Movahhedi-Savoji proposed the omission of the article.

Mojtahed-Shabastani and Rahbari spoke as opponent and supporter of this proposal respectively. Then, the spokesman of the committee provided explanations and the proposal was put to a vote. It was not ratified but rejected.

Then, Articles 37 and 38 were read, put to vote and ratified as follows:

Article 37. Paragraph 9 of Article 37 of the customs affairs law is amended as follows:

Gifts that are given by foreign governments, persons and establishments to the government, city halls, universities, charity and public beneficial institutions, theological centers, holy places, revolutionary organizations, and liberation organizations.

Note: This Paragraph does not apply to government companies, establishments and organizations engaged in the commercial import and export of goods.

Article 38. The Ministry of Commerce is responsible for the proper implementation of this law, the implementary bylaws of which will be ratified and announced by the Cabinet in one month.

Proposal for Permission to Employ Judges to the Supreme Judicial Council

Then the single emergency proposal on permission for hiring judges to the Supreme Judicial Council, one emergency measure of which was ratified in the previous session, was discussed and examined in the presence of the Council of Guardians.

The spokesman of the judicial affairs committee provided some explanations and said: This proposal, the one starred priority of which was ratified in the Majlis, was sent to this committee for examination. It was discussed and studied in the Tuesday session dated 30 April 1985 in the presence of the minister of justice and was ratified unanimously with minor changes in the single article.

Then, Esma'il Feda'i spoke as the opponent to this proposal.

Then, the general points of the proposal were put to a vote, but were not ratified.

Then the details were discussed and Mostafa Naseri proposed an amendment to the single article, which was opposed and supported by Musavi-Tabrizi and 'Abdol'ali Qanberi respectively. Dr Habibi, the minister of justice and spokesman of the committee, provided explanations. The proposal was put to a vote, but was not ratified.

Then the single article of this proposal was read, put to a vote and ratified as follows:

**Legislative Proposal on Permission to Employ Judges to the
Supreme Judicial Council**

**Single article. The Supreme Judicial Council is granted
permission to implement Paragraph 3 of Article 157 of the
Constitution and the law of the Majlis on the qualifications for
the selection of Justice Department judges ratified on
4 May 1982.**

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CSO: 4640/577

IRAN

GROWTH OUTPUT OF NATIONAL INDUSTRIES ANNOUNCED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 27 Apr 85 p 17

[Interview with Engineer Hoseyn Mahru, deputy minister of industries and general manager of the Iranian national industries organization; interviewer, date and place not specified]

[Text] The production growth in the recent years as well as the output of national industries was announced in an interview with Engineer Hoseyn Mahru, deputy minister of industries and general manager of the Iranian national industries organization.

According to a report by the economic correspondent of KEYHAN, the deputy minister of industries and general manager of the national industries organization said: The net sale of all factories controlled by the organization during the period 21 March 1983-20 March 1984 amounted to 640 billion rials. This figure increased by about 19 percent compared to the previous year. It is noteworthy that of the 19 percent increase during the 1983-84 period, only 2 percent was related to the price increase and 17 percent resulted mainly from the increase in production.

He pointed out: Some of the factories controlled by the national industries organization, such as the Polyacryl and Pars paper factories, show losses, which the national industries organization must pay for every year. For example, the total loss for the two factories mentioned was about 7.5 billion rials. Of course, the necessary steps to reduce the losses of the above two factories have been taken since they were nationalized by the national industries organization. For example, I must say that the losses of the Polyacryl factory during the 1983-84 period were reduced from 10 billion rials to about 6 billion rials.

The deputy minister of industries referred to the raw and primary materials needed by the industries under its control and said: Unfortunately, the raw and primary materials needed by the

factories under the control of the national industries organization are imported from abroad at the present and we have to rely on oil exports to import raw and primary materials. It should be pointed out that in this connection, these industries are faced with many problems and we have thought of various solutions to eliminate the problems, which we hope will be effective in the future.

Then, concerning the steps taken to achieve self-sufficiency, he said: The steps taken by the national industries organization to achieve self-sufficiency have been mostly at the level of manufacturing such items as spare parts. In this area, significant success has been achieved. It should be explained that the primary materials for these industries must be produced in other factories. For example, [metall] sheets are one of the primary materials for the refrigerator manufacturing factory. On the whole, this primary material for the refrigerator manufacturing factory must be produced in the steel industries; the refrigerator manufacturing factories cannot produce [metall] sheets. For this reason, we hope that with the steps that are taken in the country to create major industries by the responsible organizations, in the not-too-distant future, the primary materials for the factories will be produced in the country, so that the industries of the country will not have to use foreign raw and primary materials for their products. To sever dependence and achieve self-sufficiency, it is necessary for all the executive organizations of the country to join hands.

He then referred to the production growth in the factories and said: The production of factories under the control of the national industries organization has increased by about 11 percent during the period 21 March 1984-20 March 1985 compared to the year before, with an increase of 10 percent in food and textile industries, 11 percent in celluloid industries, 8 percent in shoe and leather industries, 13 percent in chemical industries, 16 percent in pharmaceutical industries, 43 percent in machine-made rug industries, and 82 percent in machine-made carpet industries. He pointed out: The production of household goods, such as refrigerators, freezers and televisions, increased by 26 percent during the 1984-85 period compared to the year before, which is itself a factor in the reduction of the price of these items on the market.

Continuing his statements, he referred to the sale of the shares of government factories to the workers and people and said: The sale of the shares of factories to the workers and people by the government will provide grounds for the creation of new industries and also increase production in factories, which can help the national economy in various dimensions.

In conclusion, the deputy minister of industries added: To date, much has been said about the increase in the quality of the products of the factories, which, because of numerous problems, has not been achieved as it should have been. For this reason, we hope that the national industries organization during the current year and in future years will be able to raise the quality of the products in the factories with the efforts of their workers and officials, so that the goods offered to the people are of a desirable quality.

10,000

CSO: 4640/571

IRAN

PROFIT, LOSS OF 500 INDUSTRIAL UNITS ANNOUNCED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 5 May 85 p 2

[Text] Bakhtaran—KEYHAN Correspondent—The fifth national meeting of National Industry Organization officials was opened yesterday with ceremonies at the assembly hall of the Gharb Cement Factory. Its goals are to study existing problems, future procedures and policies, proper planning in accordance with the country's needs, and meeting the problems and difficulties of industry in the country's five western provinces.

KEYHAN's correspondent reports that participating in this seminar, which will continue for three days, were Engineer Mahru, Deputy Minister of Industry and acting director of the Iranian National Industries Organization, aides in this organization, directors of the ten specialist groups, representatives of the Iran National Industries Organization from throughout the country, general managers of industries in the provinces of Bakhtaran, Ilam, Kordestan and Hamadan, and managers of production units affiliated with the Iran National Industries Organization in the western part of the country.

Kohzadi, governor-general of Bakhtaran, spoke at this seminar, which was also attended by Seyyed Jalil Seyyedzadeh, representative of the people of Bakhtaran and chairman of the Majlis Petroleum Commission, the political deputy of the provincial administration, the governor of Bakhtaran, the supervisor of the Islamic revolutionary committees of Bakhtaran, the general manager of industries, the industrial consultant to the governor-general, and managers of Bakhtaran's industrial and production factories. Kohzadi said: You are holding a seminar in a province, three out of eight of whose municipalities have been 80 to 100 percent destroyed by the Zionist Ba'thist warmongers of Iraq. At the present time the enemy is in the Nowsud Heights, and agents obedient to world imperialism and minigroups are in the Nowsudan district; in the last month our border cities have been attacked every day by enemy aircraft. Only eight rockets have fallen on the city of Bakhtaran, martyring more than 400 people and wounding two thousand. Despite all these events, however, we see that the workers and industrial insiders of the province have never abandoned the trenches of economic combat.

In another part of his speech, he enumerated the issues and problems of the province's factories. He said: When you see that the Ministry of Commerce has acted in such a way with regard to imports that within three years the country's needs will be met, these measures will cause the products of our country's factories to be stored. Another matter which must be given full attention is the matter of the quality of products, which must be discussed at this meeting.

The governor-general of Bakhtaran referred to the workers' councils and the Islamic societies as the arms of management. He said: The method of management of production and industrial factories must be seen from this point of view.

Profits from 500 Industrial Units

In his speech, the Deputy Ministry of Industry and acting director of the National Industries Organization addressed seminar participants and gave a brief history of the accomplishments of the Iran National Industries Organization. He said: The companies in the National Industries Organization now total 500 companies and industrial factories; they are a powerful economic arm at the disposal of the government.

He said: In the years following the triumph of the Islamic revolution until the year 1361 [21 March 1982 - 20 March 1983] the factories and companies in the organization lost money as a group. Their loss in 1358 [21 March 1979 - 20 March 1980] was 41 billion rials; in 1359 [21 March 1980 - 20 March 1981] it was 50 billion rials; in 1360 [21 March 1981 - 20 March 1982] it was 24 billion rials, and in 1361 [21 March 1982 - 20 March 1983] the era of aggregate profit for factories began, so that in this year we had a 14 billion rial profit and a profit of 32 billion rials in 1362 [21 March 1983 - 20 March 1984]. We hope that the profit for the year 1363 [21 March 1984 - 20 March 1985], which has not yet been determined, will be higher. It is worthy of note that in 1362 [21 March 1983 - 20 March 1984], in addition to the 32 billion rials in special profits we paid 40 billion rials in bank profits. Some industries may still be losing money, but they must continue producing due to the strategic nature of what they produce.

He announced that the total sales for industries affiliated with the organization in 1362 [21 March 1983 - 20 March 1984] was 640 billion rials, which represents a 19 percent increase compared to that figure for 1361 [21 March 1982 - 20 March 1983], when total sales were 535 billion rials. He added that of this 19 percent, 17 percent was due to increased production, and statistics available so far show that in 1363 [21 March 1984 - 20 March 1985] growth in production was 12 percent more than in 1362 [21 March 1983 - 20 March 1984].

Investments Not in Accord with Country's Needs

The acting director of the National Industries Organization discussed the organization's investments. He said: In the years following the triumph of the Islamic revolution most of the efforts of the National Industries Organization were directed to restarting and expanding existing factories. The organization is now carrying out projects for tire manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, and concrete industries, but it must be said that existing investment in no way corresponds to the country's needs. We believe that the National Industries Organization must make use of all usable resources in the provinces and throughout the country in order to start an investment movement by activating inactive capital and obtaining participation from the people and organizations. Otherwise, every year we will see the deterioration of existing industries, industry will be destroyed in no time, and we will have products unsuitable for competition on our hands.

In another part of his speech, he discussed cooperation by the organization and its companies and factories with the fronts. He said: The industrial factories affiliated with the Iran National Industries Organization have been with the combatants of Islam throughout the imposed war. The organization's industrial factories played a valuable role in Operations Kheybar and Badr in building pontoon bridges; the total material assistance of the organization and its factories was more than two billion rials.

The acting director of the Iran National Industries Organization then discussed currency problems, the necessity for barter transactions between the factories and the companies they trade with, cooperation with the reconstruction crusade, the elements of proper management, effective cooperation with the Islamic societies, expanding the dimensions of Islamic culture in the factories, the question of ownership of affiliated companies, cooperation with the five-person committees to implement Article J in with regard to the assets of the 200 factories included under this article, giving importance to the desirability and quality of products, and cooperation between officials in the country's western provinces with the Iran National Industries Organization in order to solve existing problems. In conclusion, he mentioned the Gharb Concrete Factory's proposal to set aside one day's profits for the fronts and for rebuilding war areas, and he called for the spread of this assistance to other factories.

Daily Export of 1.7 Million Barrels Oil

Our correspondent reports that Seyyed Jalil Seyyedzadeh, representative of the people of Bakhtaran and chairman of the Majlis Petroleum Commission gave a talk at this seminar. He announced that oil exports in the month of Farvardin of the current year [21 March - 20 April 1985] reached 1.7 million barrels despite all of the enemy's tricks. He added:

In addition to this level of exports, we refine 700 to 800 thousand barrels of oil per day within the country, and this is testimony to the extensive efforts of oil industry workers in the oil-rich areas and their export points, and this has been done under wartime conditions when the roar of aircraft is heard over their heads every day.

Continuing his talk, he enumerated the country's industrial issues and problems and the country's various imports. He said:

In 1363 [21 March 1984 - 20 March 1985] we suffered losses because many of our factories were faced with a surplus of haphazard imports; an example is Gharb Textiles, which has come to the production of desirable products through great effort, but was faced with a surplus of its own products. We must accept our domestic products, however deficient they may be, in order to put our country on the proper economic track.

He added:

We must close the ports of entry, because our people expect the revolution to give them products that are competitive with foreign products.

In another portion of his talk, Seyyedzadeh said: Our factories are reminiscent of the trenches, and we have committed forces working for us. We must use them for inventions and interesting projects such as those in the mold-making industry, so that these projects and innovations will lead to progress in industry, including military industries. At the present time we have the capability, in addition to building the rockets we have made and issued to combatants, of building real chemical bombs.

In conclusion he discussed the country's natural resources. He said:

The Province of Bakhtaran alone is capable of meeting the agricultural and animal husbandry needs of eight million of the country's population.

9310

CSO: 4640/578

PAKISTAN

PRIME MINISTER URGES LESS DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED EDIBLE OIL

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 8 May 85 p 1

[Excerpts]

ISLAMABAD, May 7: Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has emphasised the need to educate the farmers in the country with the latest agricultural technology and knowledge to bring about development in the field of agriculture and also to increase the production of oilseeds to augment domestic edible oil production so as to reduce its imports.

The Prime Minister said this while inaugurating a three-day national seminar on oilseeds crops at the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council.

He said that basically Pakistan was an agricultural country blessed

with God gifted opportunities and all it needed was to avail of the opportunities by way of educating the farmers. He said farmers always respond favourably and cooperate if they were convinced that they were to benefit from the new technology.

VITAL SUBJECT

The Prime Minister said that the subject of the oilseeds was very vital for country's economy and we must concentrate our efforts and planning to wipe out the shortage of the oil so that foreign exchange is saved which the country has to use to import edible oil.

The Prime Minister emphasised the importance of agricultural research and said that the researcher has the responsibility to develop high yielding varieties and production technologies to increase productivity; the extensionist has to grapple with the production by transferring this technology; the farmer has to put in his best to exploit the production potential to its fullest and the processor will have to ensure a most efficient traction operation.

He asked the participants of the seminar to give the Government the guidelines to frame a policy that will favour the country's goal of increased oilseed production which will ultimately lead us to self sufficiency in this commodity. The Government, he assured, on its part was determined to take all necessary policy measures.

cent growth in agriculture. During the Sixth Plan, the growth target is six per cent. He said given good weather conditions combined with necessary inputs, it should materialize as visualised. However, he said during the first two years, the weather conditions have not been ideal and it has affected the overall wheat production.

PAKISTAN

ASGHAR KHAN CALLS FOR ABOLITION OF FEUDAL SYSTEM

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 May 85 p 6

[Article by Badrul Islam Butt]

[Text]

LAHORE, May 2: Air Marshal (Retd) Asghar Khan, chief of the defunct Tehrik-e-Istiqal, has stressed the need for combining people's aspirations for a change in the present economic system with the struggle for democracy. In this context, he called for the abolition of the feudal system and a 25-acre ceiling on land holdings and said this would break the hegemony of 46 families over national politics.

Addressing a well attended pub-

lic meeting on May Day here, Asghar Khan said the main reason for lack of popular response to the MRD's programme was that it ignored the distressing economic conditions of the poor masses. As much as 90 per cent of the public exchequer revenues, he said, came from those people who earn less than Rs. 1000 per month as everything they consume was taxed.

He pointed out that 50 per cent of the entire exchequer went to defence, while 26 per cent was appropriated in debt servicing of foreign loans which now stood at 13 billion dollars. Another 20 per cent was being spent on administration and police while only four per cent was left to better the lot of the whole people. Of this meagre amount only 3 per cent was spent on education while a negligible one per cent went to the public health sector.

Out of Rs. 20 billion provincial budget, he further alleged, Rs. 14 billion were being consumed by the government for its own administrative pursuits and only Rs. 4 billion was left for education, health and other sectors, while only Rs. 2 billion were allocated for roads and other means of communications.

Such are the economic conditions our people have been made to live in. Price spiral, fast spreading unemployment, together with the repressive measures taken by those enjoying a privileged position in the society, had further compounded the problems of the poor. He said the MRD's struggle for democracy had, therefore, sparked little interest in the masses who were preoccupied with problems of bread and butter. Democratic forces, he said, will have

to take note of this situation by giving priority to the economic problems of the poor masses as was done by the late Bhutto.

Referring to the present legislative bodies, Asghar Khan said these were dominated by 46 feudal families which always sided with those in power.

Referring to the Soviet warning, Asghar Khan said the Soviets are known for their cool-mindedness and seldom resorted to threats. The recent warning was, therefore, a matter of real concern. He warned that in case hostilities erupted into a war, the US, true to her past traditions, would not come to the rescue of Pakistan but would make us fight its war and this would be devastating for Pakistan.

Asghar Khan said the regime was exploiting Islam in order to perpetuate its rule. In this campaign, he said the regime had the support of those ulama who always stood by the autocratic, anti-people regimes for worldly gains. These elements, he said, would not escape the wrath of the masses.

While pleading for maintaining a small standing army backed by a large people's army, the Tehrik Chief said a developing country like Pakistan cannot afford to maintain a large regular army. These people, he said, should be engaged in development works during peacetime.

Concluding, he said MRD will not accept another General stepping in with a bunch of flowery promises to hold elections nor will it accept any proposal for assigning this task to the judiciary.

PAKISTAN

MINISTER SAYS GOVERNMENT IN FAVOR OF 'LARGE SCALE DEREGULATION'

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 May 85 p 1

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, May 2: The Federal Finance Minister Dr. Mahbubul Haq today pleaded for less aid from the Aid-to-Pakistan Consortium, because it wanted to achieve progressive self-reliance through greater mobilisation of its own resources.

While requesting less aid, as compared to the current financial year, Pakistan would like the Aid-to-Pakistan Consortium meeting in Paris next week, to increase the proportion of non-project assistance and provide more funds, within the overall limit for the private and social sectors, he said.

The Finance Minister was addressing the envoys of the Aid to-Pakistan Consortium countries here this morning.

The Minister maintained that this would be in keeping with the priorities of the new government which was laying greater emphasis both on the development of the social sectors, particularly in the rural areas, and on the deregulation of the economy.

Explaining the priorities of the government, the Finance Minister said the government was contemplating large scale deregulation during the next financial year. However, this move was not motivated by any ideological pre-disposition, instead, it was a pragmatic response to a situation

in which the economy had been stiffed by regulations which benefited the controllers at the expense of the nation. The Minister emphasised that each deregulation measure will be examined on its merit, the acid test of each measure being the advancement of the welfare of the people and the enhancement of national production levels.

On the other hand, Dr. Mahbubul Haq said, the progressive redefinition of the role of the government which had been underway during the last two years, was crystallising. The question was that with limited financial and managerial resources, should the government devote its resources and energies to selling ghee and trading in cotton, or to meeting the pressing development needs of the nation clearly the latter choice was the only reasonable one. Of necessity this implied an increasing role for the private sector, but the private sector in turn was expected to exhibit a social consciousness.

The Minister asked the foreign envoys to support the contemplated provision of greater financial assistance to the private sector through funds and technical assistance in the creation of intermediary financial institutions which were envisaged.

Briefing the envoys on Pakistan's economy, the Finance Minister said while there were some

pressure points, the economy was basically healthy. The financial and economic pressures that had emerged were manageable and will be overcome decisively through measures already taken and to be announced in the forthcoming budget. In spite of two bad years for agriculture, the growth target of 8.5 per cent was expected to be achieved.

He said that there was a pressure on the balance of payments, particularly in the first half of the current financial year not only due to a bad cotton crop in 1984 but also due to a deterioration in the terms of trade. Pakistan lost more than dollars 100 million due to the fall in the prices of its exportable commodities. However, there were some healthy signals and there has been an increase of dollars 100 million in our foreign exchange reserves recently. The Finance Minister said that in spite of various pressures, Pakistan has succeeded in keeping its inflation to single digit levels.

The Finance Minister said, our real challenges are the long term difficulties like, low savings, managing a high growth rate with limited resources, lack of resources for maintenance of physical infrastructure, and the development of human infrastructure through education, health and other social services. -APP

CSO: 4600/456

PAKISTAN

NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY DEMANDS EXPULSION OF U.S. AMBASSADOR

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 29 Apr 85 p 8

[Text]

QUETTA, April 28: The Working Committee of the National Democratic Party has strongly condemned the statement of American Ambassador, in which he had criticised the stand taken by the MRD on Afghanistan and demanded the immediate expulsion of the Ambassador from Pakistan by declaring him persona non-grata.

The Working Committee, in its resolution issued here today, expressed its grave concern over the said statement of the U.S. Ambassador and termed it as contrary to the diplomatic norms. It also depicts, the resolution said, that Pakistan's foreign Policy is framed 'on the dictation of the United States'. Besides, it alleged, that Reagan administration was observing a double standard on the question of democracy as it imposed economic sanctions when martial law was imposed in Poland, while it fully supports the martial law regime in Pakistan.

In another resolution, the Working Committee of NDP demanded that allotment of lands to non-Sindhi civil and military government officials be stopped forthwith as this policy had deprived the sole and legitimate owners who, it said, were the local Sindhi people. It also demanded the cancellation of allotment orders of those non-

Sindhis who got lands in the past.

In yet another resolution, the Working Committee expressed its concern over the registration of false cases against the students by involving them in the Thori incident in which several youths were killed. It also demanded the release of all arrested students, and judicial inquiry at High Court level besides compensating those who were killed in the Thori incident.

The NDP's Working Committee took strong note to the current power crisis, which has badly affected national agriculture and industrial production in the country. It termed the present power crisis as the outcome of the regime's dubious planning and its failure to meet the power needs according to the growing demands. It also expressed its grave concern over the government's proposal of handing over the power generation department to the private sector, which, it termed, would further aggravate the situation.

The meeting demanded that power generation department be handed over to the provinces and new power stations be established according to the growing demands of energy in the country.

CSO: 4600/455

PAKISTAN

COMMENTARY SEES LITTLE CHANGE IN INDIAN POLICY TOWARD PAKISTAN

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 4 May 85 p 4

[Commentary by Khalid Akhtar]

[Text]

Mr. Rajiv's interview with 'The Muslim' was significant in more than one respect. It gives an insight in the thinking of the new Indian leadership vis-a-vis Pakistan and other smaller states of the region. While Mr. Rajiv has shown warmth — the new P.M.'s most outstanding trait — he has given no indication whatsoever whether India under him will make any adjustment in its foreign posture. This places 'Rajiv's India' on no higher pedestal (in terms of relations with its neighbours), than 'Indira's India'. It will be interesting to see whether Delhi's policies remain the same — the only difference being that the 'friendly looking' Rajiv Gandhi has made them look less dangerous than was the case when Indira's 'ruthless approach' made them look dreadful.

Much could be said against India's policy of laying stress on building up confidence between the neighbours first and resolving the outstanding disputes later on. It could be strongly argued that with the differences between the two states persisting how can good-will be generated between them? On the contrary, it could be said that with the disputes remaining unresolved the suspicions between the two countries are bound to deepen. And this is exactly how Indo-Pakistan, Indo-Bangladesh and

Indo-Lankan ties have suffered. In each case no confidence building measure has been able to survive the negative effects of the disputes existing between the respective countries. And finally the Indian strategy to by-pass the disputes while seeking normalisation could be easily misunderstood and taken as reluctance to seek an amicable settlement of the problems. The states in the region naturally feel that India does not seek solutions of issues, rather it wants to impose its solutions.

INDIAN STRATEGY

This has naturally raised the question whether India has not overstretched its approach of 'by passing' the disputes while engaged in normalisation talks with neighbouring states. Why has the Simla Accord lost its utility and relevance despite the fact that both the states proclaim it as a valuable document? As a matter of fact none of the accords between the two states, not even the No-War Pact or Treaty of Peace and Friendship (if any of the two matures) will survive if issues are not resolved first.

It cannot be assumed even for a moment that the Indian politicians could be that optimistic as to believe that without resolving the outstanding disputes there can be normalisation between India and any of its neighbours. India is indeed following this policy deliberately and with specific objectives in view. The question is not how long India can postpone the solutions: the question is how long India's neighbours can resist its solutions. The strategy has been to wear down the opposition into submission as in the case of Sikkim and Bhutan.

Coming to Pak-India ties, the situation is more complex today than it was at any stage before. For Pakistan there is only one dispute — the Kashmir issue—between the two states. But for India there are three major irritants between them; the other two being (No. 1) Pakistan's nuclear programme and (No. 2) Pakistan's relations with the United States. The last two issues (which in normal circumstances should not have been a source of conflict) demonstrate India's overwhelming desire to run the affairs of the region according to her own perceptions.

Perhaps we have lost time to hammer out an ideal solution of the Kashmir issue. (Plebiscite could have been one such move). But an amicable settlement of the dispute has never remained beyond the realm of possibility. All such hopes have now received a serious setback. Mr. Rajiv's statement that it is Pakistan and not India which has to vacate the occupied territory has disappointed even the most optimistic. It is doubtful whether such utterances can help generate confidence or goodwill between the two states.

Equally alarming is Delhi's attitude towards Pakistan's nuclear programme. Even if for the sake of argument India's contention that Pakistan is making a nuclear bomb is accepted, the solution lies not in contemplating razing to the ground Pakistan's nuclear facilities (as was planned by the late Indira Gandhi) but in removing Pakistan's security apprehensions.

Perhaps an open approach by Delhi could have helped to eliminate most of the misgivings. (Signing of the NPT by the two countries or mutual inspection of each other's nuclear installations, as proposed

by Pakistan, could have achieved the desired results). But, India's problem is that it does not want to be treated "equally" with Pakistan: hence Pakistan's nuclear programme, peaceful or otherwise, is unacceptable to it.

GLOOMY SCENARIO.

Finally, coming to Pakistan's ties with the United States it remains debatable whether they are more military in nature than the Indo-Soviet relations. The military nature of the Indo-Soviet ties was fully demonstrated in the 1971 crisis when Pakistan was disintegrated. Again if Pakistan is guilty of dragging a superpower in the affairs of the region India cannot be absolved of similar charges. India may have to say many things about the 'special nature' of Pak-US ties but then Islamabad could retaliate equally strongly. This unending rhetoric has made the situation still more complicated. While the two superpowers have flourished on this anomaly, the two native states have witnessed the equilibrium proportionately tilting against them while dealing with Washington and Moscow as the case may be.

All this paints a rather gloomy scenario. Mr. Bhandari and Yaqub Khan have already visited Islamabad and Delhi respectively. The Joint Commission meeting may also be held soon and there is a possibility that the two sides may reach accord on some trivial matters also. But a genuine normalisation between Pakistan and India remains a distant and remote possibility. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi seems as unwilling to make one big concession or take one big initiative to bring about normalisation in the Sub-Continent as Indira was.

PAKISTAN

LEGISLATORS EMPOWERED TO SANCTION LOANS

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 8 May 85 p 1

[Article by Anwar Rajani]

[Text]

Four nationalised banks will disburse Qarz-e-Hasna on the recommendations of the members of the National and Provincial assemblies and the Senate.

The new arrangement will replace the existing system with immediate effect. Under the existing system, Qarz-e-Hasna had to be disbursed on the recommendations of Pakistan Banking Council (PBC).

According to banking circles, every MNA, MPA and Senator will have the authority to recommend loans upto Rs. 1.10 lakh each per annum.

The total strength of the members of the National and Provincial Assemblies and the Senate comes to about 734. During their five-year tenure, they would thus be responsible for the disbursement of about Rs. 40 crore under the Qarz-e-

Hasna scheme.

Areas have been allocated separately to the four banks for disbursement purpose. Habib Bank will be extending loans in the Punjab, United Bank Ltd. in Sind, Muslim Commercial Bank in Baluchistan and Azad Kashmir and the National Bank of Pakistan in the NWFP.

For this purpose, an intensive publicity campaign will be launched shortly by the banks in their respective areas to familiarise the people with the changed and familiarise the people with the changed

It may be mentioned that the members of the National Assembly and Provincial Assemblies had approached the government for some powers and funds to be placed at their disposal, which they could utilise for the wellbeing and uplift of their constituencies.

CSO: 4600/458

PAKISTAN

KAUSAR NIAZI SPEAKS AGAINST MARTIAL LAW, CONFEDERATION

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 May 85 p 8

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, May 2: Senator Kausar Niazi has demanded immediate lifting of Martial Law, revival of political activities, removal of the ban on political parties and repeal of the Press and Publications Ordinance.

Addressing a reception arranged in his honour here, the Maulana said that the elections held in the country had failed to create the desired impact and the people who expected a truly democratic change felt frustrated. He was sorry to say that there was unnecessary delay in taking important decisions and things were not moving fast enough.

He declared that he intended to bring the issues of Martial Law and political parties under discussion in the Senate for which he has already given notices to

the Senate Secretariat.

He warned that if the National Assembly failed to deliver the goods and meet the expectations of the people, the outcome would be tragic for the nation. The President, he said, had thrown the ball in the Prime Minister's court by declaring that he would abide by the latter's advice with respect of the lifting of Martial Law in the country. Mr. Junejo should waste no time in advising the President to lift Martial Law. He also regretted the Prime Minister's statement that there was now no need for a dialogue with the political parties. He said every one had welcomed his earlier declaration that he was prepared to meet the MRD leaders at any time. What had now prompted him to change his mind was beyond comprehension because national interests demanded such a dialogue.

The Senator strongly criticised those demanding a confederation. He said it was strange that those making this demand were among the authors of the 1973 Constitution. Though some of the leaders of that party to which they belong have objected to their statement, no action has been taken against them so far.

The reception, hosted by a Kashmiri businessman, was attended by a number of diplomats, MNAs and other notables.

CSO: 4600/456

PAKISTAN

INDIA'S STANCE ON AFGHANISTAN CRITICIZED

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 20 Apr 85 p 5

[Article by Nurul Hasan Hashmi]

[Text] Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari returned to the capital on 17 April after visiting the four points of the compass. His last stop was in Khaka. As in Islamabad, in Dhaka too, his talks bore little fruit. There were no meaningful talks on the issues of division of Ganges waters or the Farraka Dam and construction of barbed wire fence on the Indo-Bangladesh border. All these issues were postponed till further talks.

On instructions of his prime minister, Mr Bhandari had set out to mend relations with neighboring countries. He visited Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. The question of improving relations with the first four countries is understandable. But the visit to Afghanistan makes no sense, because India's relations with Afghanistan ever since 1947 have been not only friendly but even special. Before this, in 1946, things were different. Pandit Nehru was head of the government and the foreign ministry was in his charge. He was also favored to be the prime minister of India. In those days the Kabul rulers had notified Britain that they did not recognize the Durand Line. The British government, in a dry reply, suggested that New Delhi should be contacted. In New Delhi, Pandit Nehru, in his capacity as foreign minister, declared that the Durand Line was a mutually accepted boundary between India and Afghanistan. Thus, in 1946, the Kabul rulers' claim was officially rejected. Till this time Pandit Nehru and the Congress Party were under the illusion that Pakistan, the dream of the Muslims of the subcontinent, would never materialize and that the Durand Line would continue to be the frontier between united India and Afghanistan. Very soon, Congress plans came to naught and, in fact, Pandit Nehru, by rejecting the Cabinet Plan, brought the goal of Pakistan nearer. When Pakistan became a certainty, the intentions of the Congress Party changed and, according to Maulana Azad, Gandhi implanted into the minds of the Khan Brethren the idea of Pakhtoonistan. At the same time, Congress leaders began making overtures to Kabul rulers and, immediately on becoming independent, India changed its attitude towards the Kabul royal family and the Khan brethren of Frontier Province. Ever since, the Indian attitude has been the same and, today, when Russian military intervention in Afghanistan has reached the

borders of Pakistan, India as the Russian satellite has adopted a posture towards its closest neighbor such as to be not only a negation of protestations of friendship, but also an indication of another attempt to create dire trouble for Pakistan.

During the last 6 years the United Nations, the Islamic Conference and non-aligned nations organizations have been calling upon Russia to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan. The entire world is on one side and Russia alone is on the other. But because Russia is a super power it does not care for world opinion and India, being a Russian satellite, in its greed for arms, has been voicing agreement with the Kremlin. India does not realize that, because of its syncopahancy, the very existence of its neighbor (Pakistan), with whom it wants to improve relations, could be in jeopardy. If we look at Mr Bhandari's recent visit to Kabul and the joint communique in this context, we do not find a trace of friendship. The communique sings the familiar tune, that the region is being armed and that armaments have been introduced into the Indian Ocean. "Arming of the region" means the arms Pakistan is buying from America, and "arming of the Indian Ocean" refers to Diego Garcia Archipelago, where America has built a base. In other words, the armament that is reaching India from Russia at a feverish pace does not constitute "arming." And the naval bases that Russia has built in the South Arabian Sea and the Vietnam waters are only designed to provide recreational facilities for tourists. The communique goes on to say that Kabul is prepared to hold direct talks with Pakistan without any pre-conditions. What is new in this? Don't the Kabul and New Delhi rulers know that Pakistan is bound by decisions of the Islamic Conference organization? Under decisions of the Conference, Pakistan cannot hold direct talks with the Babrak Karmal regime. This organization has boycotted Babrak Karmal. Because of Babrak Karmal's treason, 4 million Afghans (aged women and children) were compelled to seek refuge in Pakistan and Iran. It is true that this process had begun in the regime of Babrak Karmal's predecessor, but it assumed serious proportions only in Babrak Karmal's time. In other words, Babrak Karmal has been the enemy not only of the people of his own country, but also of neighboring Pakistan. According to an old saying, the friend of an enemy is also an enemy. Judging by this, by establishing friendship with Babrak Karmal, the New Delhi rulers have been guilty of enmity to both the Afghanistan people and Pakistan.

Only time can tell what transpired in Kabul. The New Delhi rulers are not unaware of the touchstone by which a common Pakistani tests the claims of friendship by Indian leaders. Even if we overlook the partition of Kashmir, the Indian reaction to the Russian invasion of Afghanistan tells all. Leaving aside any considerations of friendship or neighborliness, Indian rulers, in their own interest, should have risen above gratitude and satellite status and, taking courage in their hands, should have told the Russian rulers this: You tyrants, what have you done? America was completely ignoring Pakistan. Pakistan was not getting even airguns from America. By your military intervention in Afghanistan, you have brought America to the threshold of Pakistan. If you do not withdraw the troops from Afghanistan at the earliest, you will see that America will equip

Pakistan with the most advanced armaments. And American arms are far better than your arms, which you have been piling up in India. If America equips Pakistan with the most advanced planes and ground arms, all our hopes will be dashed to the ground. If you really wish well for India, withdraw your troops from Afghanistan at the earliest. If you had to do this deed in Afghanistan, why did you not use the same methods as in Central and South America? If you do not refrain, we are afraid you will try to include Pakistan in your bear-hug and that will be the last straw on the back of America. Pakistan's agreement with America on the sale of arms expires in 1986. We do not wish this to be renewed. If you really wish us well, get out of Afghanistan; otherwise Pakistan will get far ahead of us. Even as it is, it does not show us any regard and does not acknowledge our supremacy in the subcontinent.

India did not give Russia this advice. Instead, acting as Russia's spokesman, it has been saying that, if foreign intervention in Afghanistan stops, Russia will withdraw its troops. It is Russia that intervened in Afghanistan and continues to do so, and yet the demand has been that foreign intervention should stop. Did the mujahidin enter the country from outside?

If India really desires friendship with Pakistan, it should immediately demand from the Kremlin withdrawal of Russian troops from Afghanistan and do it publicly. After that, it should initiate talks with Pakistan on the Kashmir issue.

Chanakya advised Chandragupta to keep strained relations with the immediate neighbors and have friendship with the neighbor's neighbor. Now we see it in practice. India's relations with all her neighbors are bad, but with the neighbor's neighbor, that is, Afghanistan and the Himalayan Chinese neighbor's neighbor, Russia, it has close friendship.

It is said that Pandit Nehru used to keep Chanakya's work "Artha-shastra" under his pillow.

12286

CSO: 4656/121

PAKISTAN

COMMENTARY ON FOREIGN AID DISCUSSES DEBT SERVICING REPAYMENT

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 May 85 p 4

[Commentary: "When More Aid Means Less Help"]

[Text]

WHILE the quantum of external aid to Pakistan increases steadily, the net aid goes down rapidly as a result of massive repayments and debt servicing. But that is only part of the story of the 11 billion dollar external debt of Pakistan. The steady devaluation of the rupee has increased that burden in rupees by about 60 per cent. It is true that every dollar received as aid now means nearly Rs. 16 instead of Rs. 9.90 three years ago when the rupee was delinked from the U.S. dollar. But simultaneously, the repayment of the principal and interest payments now demand 60 per cent more in rupees for dollar loans and less for other loans. The same is happening in India and in many other countries. So unless the over-valued dollar comes down, the debtor nations are in serious trouble.

Pakistan is to ask for 1.8 billion dollars as external aid for the next financial year at the Aid-to-Pakistan Consortium in Paris in the first week of this month. But the net aid may be only 400 million dollars after the heavy repayment. When Dr. Mahbubul Haq returned from the Consortium meeting in April last year he said Pakistan had asked for 1,640 million dollars but got, in fact, 1,822 million dollars — 27 per cent more. But the net aid this year was to be 800 million dollars, compared to 576 million dollars last year. Anyway that certainly was far better than the net aid of 177 million dollars, or 22 per cent of the gross disbursements, received in 1981-82.

If larger aid for developing countries is a problem, actual disbursement does not take place easily. Too much gets stuck in the pipeline after the formal committal of the aid. But the fault is not of the donors always, as too many of the aid-seekers prefer money for meeting current expenditure to aid for

investment. Often aid-seekers, like Pakistan, are not ready with the projects in their final form. There is the usual inadequacy of infrastructure and shortage of matching rupee funds to be provided by Pakistan. So too much of the aid remains in the pipeline.

In such a situation too many governments ask for commodity aid instead of project aid. But the donors prefer project aid, unless they have surplus commodities, like wheat and soyabean, as the U.S. has. Dr. Mahbubul Haq has been pressing for more commodity aid, particularly to generate rupee resources by selling the wheat and soyabean oil. So this year, too, he is seeking 400 million dollars of quickly disburseable aid in view of the two million ton shortage of wheat anticipated this year. But the fact is that if too much of the aid is used for current consumption, Pakistan's repayment capacity will remain small and its economic development modest. After 31 years of foreign aid, during which a total of over 24 billion dollars was received, the whole issue has to be discussed in a realistic manner and hard decisions, based on increasing self-reliance, taken.

CSO: 4600/456

PAKISTAN

CLOSURE OF CHASHMA CANAL SAID THREAT TO PUNJAB ECONOMY

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 May 85 p 8

[Article by Nustat Javeed]

[Text]

RAWALPINDI, May 2: Mr. Hanif Ramay, former Chief Minister of Punjab and leader of the defunct Pakistan Musawat Party, today accused the government and members of the Assemblies of maintaining "criminal silence" over the issue of Chashma Link Canal which, he claimed, was closed on April 18 for two months.

Talking to newsmen here, he said that according to the Indus Basin Treaty, the southern areas of Punjab were to be provided with water from Indus through this Canal which took water to Trimmu Headworks. From this headworks, four canals, Hawail, Maid, Bahawal and Raunpur, carry water to Jhang Multan, Vehari, Bahawalpur and Bahawalnagar district of Punjab.

He alleged that the canal had been closed during a very crucial period when Kharif sowing was on. He claimed that due to this closure 3 million acres of irrigated lands would be effected and considerable damage would be caused to cotton, rice and sugarcane crops, notably cotton which was the backbone of the region's economy.

Mr. Ramay regretted that, despite his personal letters to the President, and the Governor of Punjab, the government did not bother to explain the reasons for the Canal's closure. The members elected to the National and Provincial Assemblies from the above mentioned areas were keeping silent too. He said that denial of water

to Punjab from this canal was a violation of an international treaty on the division of Indus waters.

He believed that the people who had decided the closure wanted misunderstandings and confrontation between the people of Punjab and Sind. The "only purpose behind such divisive tactics could be to justify the continuation of Martial Law," Ramay alleged.

He urged government, political parties, members of the Assemblies and other leaders of public opinion to take the issue of the Chashma Canal seriously as the fate of around 10 million people living in five districts of Punjab was at stake where a famine like situation could be created due to the closure of this Canal.

He repeated his contention that Pakistan could only be viable if it worked within a Federal framework. He demanded the restoration of the Constitution of 1973 and requested the political parties to meet and evolve a national consensus on the quantum of autonomy.

He claimed that it was Punjab which needed more provincial autonomy than any other province in the country. At the time of independence 50 per cent industry in the present-day Pakistan was located in Punjab while now 85 per cent of the national industry is concentrated in Karachi. The province was suffering more due to load-shedding as none of its power sources were located within the province.

CSO: 4600/456

PAKISTAN

PLANS FOR RAILWAYS DEVELOPMENT REPORTED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 5 May 85 p 1

[Text]

LAHORE, May 4: The Pakistan Railways will spend Rs. 10 billion on its various development plans during the current Sixth Five-Year Plan, it is learnt.

Under the plan, the Railways will procure 105 new diesel electric locomotives and carry out major rehabilitation of another 42 of the existing diesel electric locomotives. It will also renew and replace 758 kilometres of rails and 918 kilometres of sleepers. While the rails and wooden sleepers for the renewal of the main line would be imported, sleeper renewal would be carried out with PSC and RCC sleepers manufactured in Pakistan Railways five concrete sleeper factories.

The plan also includes installation of 600 channel microwave system on Karachi — Rawalpindi main line sections with spurs to important branch line stations cov-

ering a span of about 2000 kilometres. In all, 77 base stations are being installed, connecting more than 500 locomotives through radio on the system for direct communication with control centres.

Under the 11th railway project sponsored by the World Bank, three development schemes are being carried out which are: expansion of Lahore Dry Port for handling container traffic, modernisation of locomotive maintenance facilities in workshops, backshops

sheds, and setting up of a management information system through modern microwave telecommunication system and computerisation of effective control on inventory, movement of wagons and fuel accounts.

The railways will also manufacture 560 passenger coaches to meet replacement as well as additional traffic requirements. Out of these 131 coaches have already been manufactured during 1983-84. Similarly it will manufacture 200 freight wagons and 130 hopper trucks to meet additional traffic requirements. Out of these, 30 wagons have already been manufactured during the last financial year.

The Pakistan Railways is also intending to replace obsolete plant and machinery in workshops, sheds and depots at a cost of approximately Rs. 122 million.

Improvement of line capacity, works and terminal facilities are also part of the plan. It will cost Rs. 243 million which also includes doubling of 48 kilometres of track on Multan-Khanewal section on the main line. The plan also includes electrification of 140 kilometres on Sibi-Quetta section on the Railways western main line to Iranian border.—APP.

CSO: 4600/458

PAKISTAN

MANUFACTURE OF FERTILIZER, ALCOHOL, PLANTS PLANNED

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 7 May 85 p 1

[Article by Anwar Rajani]

[Text]

Heavy Mechanical Complex (HMC) Taxila will produce plants for production of industrial alcohol from molasses, oil drilling rigs and fertilizer plants.

At present, all these plants are imported for installation in Pakistan against heavy amounts of foreign exchange.

The HMC is already producing complete plants for the manufacture of cement and sugar.

Initially HMC had the capacity to produce sugar mill of 1500 tons crushing capacity, per day. Now it has created design and production facility of sugar plants upto 10,000 tons per day crushing capacity.

Initially HMC had the capacity to produce Cement Plant of 600 tons per day capacity of wet process but now HMC has the capacity to manufacture Cement plant up to 2000 tons per day capacity through dry process.

In case of road construction machinery, HMC has obtained

design and know-how from China for manufacture of static road-roller of 10-12 tons. The HMC has been able to develop a wide range of vibratory road-rollers, asphalt plants, stone crushers etc.

In case of boilers, HMC initially had the design of producing boilers of 10 tons capacity. Now HMC is capable of producing boilers upto 50 tons capacity.

The Heavy Foundry and Forge (HFF) has also played a major role in development of new products for the Steel Mills such as rolls for the rolling mills. Another important development is the ability to manufacture complete mini cement plants.

In addition, grinding media for cement plants springs of special composition track links for tanks have been developed on production scale. HFF is presently engaged in developing production capacity for spare parts of the Pakistan Steel Mill.

A zinc recovery unit has been established at the Karachi Pipe Mills and a new product namely steel pole tubular has been introduced.

CSO: 4600/458

PAKISTAN

WATER SHORTAGE SAID TO HURT RICE, SUGARCANE CROP

Karachi BUSINESS REPORTER in English 7 May 85 pp 1, 10

[Text] Islamabad, May 6: In what it appeared a contradiction of a news item appearing some Urdu dailies of Lahore and Rawalpindi regarding the closure of the Chashma-Jehlum Link Canal, the Federal Minister for Water and Power, Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali, in categorical terms, told a Press conference here today, "There was decision taken by the Government to close the Chashma-Jehlum Link Canal. The link was only closed for last few days due to the lowering of Tarbela level".

The Minister however conceded that if the water level at Tarbela did not rise, there were fears of Chashma-Jehlum Link Canal's closure". "We have to tell the truth to the people", he said adding, "there is an acute shortage of water but whatever resources are available to us, would be utilised".

Mir Zafarullah Khan Jamali said, "an agreement was reached in 1972 that the canal would operate during the months of June, July and August when there is no shortage in river Indus". He said since there was no water shortage in Indus till 1983, the canal operated. "But it was closed in 1984 due to shortage of water", the Minister said, adding, "We have not taken any decision to close the canal and the link was operating till today".

He said the anticipated rise in the Mangla Dam had not come up to the expectations as compared to last year but hoped that the situation would improve in two to three weeks.

About Tarbela, he said whatever storage was there, it was used in the 'rabi' crop otherwise there would have been a major setback to the crop. He said the melting snow in the Northern Areas is slow because of low temperature but hoped that the situation would improve with summer approaching.

The Water and Power Minister said that provincial Food and Agriculture Ministers meeting here yesterday, discussed the shortage of water and such issues would be brought up again. He said he had also apprised the Prime Minister of the situation.

Jamali said the Government would do its best from the available resources to give Punjab water downstream Trimu Headworks even if there might be a shortage because of water scarcity.

"Similarly, efforts would be made to meet the requirements of Sind and other provinces from the available resources," he said.

Replying to another question about the non-availability of water in Sind, the Minister said, at Guddu, all the canal feeders are closed. At Sukkur, he said 53 per cent water was available from the Right Bank Canal.

The minister disclosed that due to the inadequate supply of water in lower Sind, damage had already been done to the sugarcane and paddy crops. "In Baluchistan, two canals are presently closed", he said adding, even "drinking water has become scarce over there".

Referring to the 'kharif' crop, the Minister said, "we will be utilising other resources but despite the utilisation of all resources available, a loss of 20 per cent is expected."

CSO: 4600/458

PAKISTAN

MILITARY COURT CONVICTS 21 FOR ANTI-STATE ACTIVITIES

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 29 Apr 85 p 8

[Text]

RAWALPINDI, April 28: Special Military Court No. 52, Rawalpindi on Saturday convicted 22 persons under Martial Law Order 31 to 14 years rigorous imprisonment and confiscation of moveable and immovable property and a fine of Rs.20,000 each.

Cases had been registered against these persons on March 16 1979 and each of them was directed to appear before Special Military Court No. 38, Rawalpindi. However, they did not appear before the court by July 31 1984, despite issuance of warrants and publication of notices in newspapers.

Those convicted are: Dr. Kaniz Yousaf, former Vice Chancellor of the Quaid-i-Azam University, Dr. Rehman, Sardar Mazhar Ali Khan, M. Altaf Abbasi, Zafar Yaseen, S.M. Nisar Safdar ex-Brig. Usman Khalid Mrs. Farhanda Bukhari, Safdar Hamdani, Shah Nawaz, Muhammad Sabir Abbasi, Agha M. Waseem, Tanweer Pervaiz Iqbal, Taj Deen, Sajjad, Muhammad Taimour, Mir Ali Shah, Muhammad Shah, Muhammad Iqbal, Muhammad Zubair Minhas, Nasir Mahammad, Agha M. Nasim and Tahir Hussain.

Earlier, 18 persons involved in the same case were tried by the

same Military Court. Of them five were awarded life imprisonment and 13 acquitted on March 10 this year.

Those sentenced included two former post graduate students, a physics professor and a municipal councillor. They were Syed Kamran Haider Rizvi of Islamabad, Zahoor Ahmad Malik of Mianwali, Tariq Khurshid, Mohammad Mansha and Sawar Hussain Malik, all of Lahore.

All the accused were charged with hatching a criminal conspiracy to overthrow the present government and belonging to a terrorist organisation, 'Al-Zulfiqar'. They planned a number of anti-state activities and obtained subversive training in the foreign country

according to the prosecution.

Those earlier tried were arrested from different cities of the country during January, 1981 to November, 1983.

Immediately after the announcement of the decision, those convicted who were earlier lodged in the Rawalpindi District Jail, were shifted to other jails of the country. Recurring complaints from the convicts' relatives indicate that they are denied the routine facilities available to other inmates.

CSO: 4600/455

PAKISTAN

JATOI SAYS PEOPLE FED UP WITH MARTIAL LAW

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 29 Apr 85 p 8

[Text]

HYDERABAD, April 28: Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, acting President of the outlawed PPP, has said that people were simply fed up with Martial Law and there was no earthly justification for prolonging it even for one single day.

Talking to pressmen before his departure for Sujaawal, Mr. Jatoi said that although Bhutto's Martial Law had continued only for three months, which was necessary under the then prevailing circumstances and a hue and cry was raised against it, yet present Martial Law has been operating for the last eight years and there appears to be no end to it.

He admitted that the 1973 Constitution was not totally free from weaknesses, but no single individual had the legal or moral authority to mutilate this important document.

He said that components of

MRD had no differences whatsoever in respect of the 1973 Constitution. He said PPP was not governed through Martial Law regulations under which the party workers could be punished or thrown out of the party because of difference of opinion. Answer-

ing a question Mr. Jatoi categorically denied that the party believed in confederation.

He however, said that any action against the exponents of confederation at this stage would be preposterous. Earlier, Mr. Jatoi announced the appointment of Ghazi Salahuddin as convener of PPP Political Affairs for Sind. On this occasion Ellahi Bux Soomro, MNA, Syed Qamaruzzaman Shah, Malik Lal Khan, Ellahi Bux Qaimkhani and others were present. On arrival from Karachi, he was accorded a befitting reception by party workers.

CSO: 4600/455

PAKISTAN

MOVING PIA HEADQUARTERS SAID DELAYED BY EXPENSE INVOLVED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 4 May 85 p 8

[Text]

KARACHI, May 3: PIA's expeditious shifting of its headquarters from Karachi to Islamabad has been delayed for the time being as it involves a huge expenditure of Rs. 1000 million, while the airlines continues to face serious problems of organisational and technical nature, according to well-informed sources here.

It was stated that a detailed statement of expenses under various heads was prepared by the organisation and was presented for approval by the Chairman, PIAC, who found the same as "fabolous" and fantastic.

According to these sources he returned the statement with a directive that the same may be reviewed and cuts be made where feasible and necessary.

As a sequel a review committee was formed under Mr. Ijaz Ali, Director Corporate Sector who is now busy with the task of revising the financial proposals so as to make the shifting more economic and practical.

It could not be ascertained whether the review task has been completed or when the projected shifting would begin but even if the planned expenses had been reduced the possibility of the project to pass

through the process of implementation still appears to be a far cry in view of the socio-economic and political repercussions that might follow in the wake of shifting.

The PIA has a large network of organisations in Karachi attached to its headquarters which includes besides technical units, the computer section, employees Welfare Organisations, residential colonies, hospitals and training institutes. Their shifting not only involves huge expenditure but may cause hardships to its employees and the awesome prospects of further unemployment cannot be ruled out.

Already a substantial number of employees and their political supporters are bent upon making the whole affair a debatable issue, some of whom think that the shifting is more motivated than being a rational proposition.

In many advanced countries, they point out, the national airlines' headquarters are not necessarily based at their national or federal capitals. A politician who would not like to be named said "the shifting, if accomplished, will further enhance the sense of deprivation.

CSO: 4600/457

PAKISTAN

WORLD ISLAMIC BANK SAID BEING PLANNED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 4 May 85 p 8

[Text]

LONDON, May 3: An international Islamic Bank with a capital of US dollar 500 million is likely to be set up soon. This was stated here Friday by Muazzam Ali, Vice Chairman, Dar Al-Maal Al-Islamic who returned to London from Geneva, where he presided over the meetings of the executive committee and Board of Directors of DMI.

Mr. Muazzam Ali, who is also Vice Chairman of the International Association of Islamic Banks, said that the headquarters of the proposed bank would be either at Bahrain, Amman, Kuwait or Cairo. No final decision has, however, been taken in this connection.

Asked why Pakistan, which is the only country to have completely introduced Islamic banking, was not being considered for the bank's headquarters, he said Pakistan could be considered if the Pakistan Government took initiative in this regard. So far Pakistan has shown little interest in this connection.

The proposed bank's objectives would be, among others, to achieve integration in banking activities conforming of the principles of Sharia, promotion of trade among Islamic countries, promotion of medium and long term projects, creation of Islamic markets for the exchange and marketing of products provision of investment opportunities based on profit sharing and to

promote development of the investment sectors of Islamic countries in coordination with other Islamic banks.

He said a meeting of the Central Banks and monetary authorities of the Islamic countries in Dhaka earlier this year had shown keen interest in Islamic banking and its future promotion inspite of cool attitude of one delegation. Governors of the Central banks of Jordan, Egypt, UAE, Sudan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Turkey and Uganda strongly supported the Islamic banking movement. He declined to name the country which displayed cool attitude.

The Governor of Central Bank of Jordan has offered to convene a meeting of a group of experts to examine the issues in Amman in 1986.

Jordan has already been selected to host the tenth annual meeting of the Islamic Development Bank in 1986. Mr Muazzam Ali said, the Islamic Development Bank has also indicated its desire to convene the experts groups meeting in Jeddah in May this year, he added.

The first symposium of the Islamic banks and the Central Banks at technical level will be held towards the end of 1985. The Central Secretariat of OIC and the Governors of the Central Banks of the OIC Members countries were being informed in this regard, he said. - PPI

CSO: 4600/457

PAKISTAN

FAILURE TO RESTORE DEMOCRACY SAID FEEDING EXTREMIST TENDENCIES

Karachi JANF in Urdu 19 Apr 85 p 3

[Article by Irshad Ahmed Haqqani:]

[Text] In view of the fact that general elections have been held in the country after 8 years, and if you disregard the 1977 elections, after 15 years, one result should have been to satisfy political elements and convince them that they have a say in the country's power structure. Thus basic problems would have been solved and tension eliminated. But we have seen that these expectations have not materialized. On the contrary, in recent weeks, the lack of confidence in the present constitutional scheme and government philosophy has intensified. In London a Sind Baloch Pakhtoon Front [SBPF] has been formed and all its members are well-known politicians. Doubtless, the majority of them have been out of the country for a long time and a few for a couple of years, but they are neither faceless nor unknown, and their influence within the country cannot be denied. One example of this is that Mr Ataullah Mangal, who, according to his own admission, had stopped thinking in terms of Pakistan, decided that because of health and other reasons it was not possible for him to return to Pakistan and lead his tribe. Instead of disowning him for his political views, his tribe, in accordance with his wishes, has adopted his son as the leader and chief of the tribe, and this succession ceremony was held in the presence of thousands of Balochi chieftains. Other officials, the SBPF, too, have maintained their contacts and influence in their respective provinces and circles, and it cannot be said that they have lost their influence because of their political views and principles. No one is in a position to claim that, if these leaders return to the country today and if they are not prevented from meeting the public, no one will be prepared to listen to them. At least two of the persons associated with the front have been chief ministers of their provinces.

Within the country, more influential and important people from these provinces are thinking on almost the same lines on which founders of the above front have publicly expressed their opinions. In the beginning of last January, the banned National Democratic Party demanded a constitutional assembly to reexamine relations between the center and the provinces. Earlier the banned PNP had been stressing similar demands. These recent events are a declaration of a new line of action in the event that

certain demands of PPP leadership regarding restoration of democracy and the 1973 constitution are not granted. With this aim, demand has been made for a new constitutional assembly so that a constitution may be drawn up in light of the 1940 Declaration of Pakistan. The banned PPP has had differences with the present regime right from the first day. It has always demanded reinstatement of the 1973 constitution. For some time now it has begun to say that this constitution no longer exists and that it is finished. But till now it has never suggested completely ignoring that constitution and creating a new constitution from scratch. This is the first time that the most prominent leaders of this banned party have said that of their specific demands are not met they will launch a struggle to obtain agreement for a new constitutional formula instead of the 1973 constitution.

Mr Ghulam Mustapha Jatoi remained out of the recent elections. On this basis someone could say that he does not speak for the masses, that he has no voice in Sind and that, if he indicated a determination to embark on a particular line of action, no notice need be taken of it. It would not be correct to call this point of view completely unrealistic. If someone doubts public representativeness of those who remained out of the election process, this cannot be called unfair. But it is also clear that Ghulam Mustapha Jatoi is not an unknown person. He cannot be called a non-entity. His claim of meeting with three serving generals recently has not been denied. Nor has anyone condemned his speech regarding the objectives of these meetings. His party may be banned but no one has described his sphere of influence as extremely limited. His class and his party command a special authority not only in Sind but in the entire country. When such people tend to move towards the extremism openly declared by certain people and circles, sympathetic elements have every reason to feel concerned.

Even though, in view of expressions of relatively sensible attitudes on the part of certain circles in Punjab, Balochi chief Ataullah Mangal has agreed to launch a struggle to realize his objectives in the framework of Pakistan, his disappointment is clearly visible in the detailed interview he gave regarding the change in his thinking. He appears to say that, even though he personally has no hope left, if his friends insist, he is prepared to make one more effort. But he explained while expressing a little bit of hope what he has agreed to. He has agreed to work for a confederation. He is not prepared to accept anything less than this.

In recent days another Balochi leader, Mr Sher Mohammad Muri, has taken exception to the MRD and dwelt at length on the rights of nationalities. For a long time Akbar Bugti has been thinking on these lines and everyone who talks of the rights of nationalities, supports them. You may say that they are cut off from the mainstream of the nation. It is not difficult to call them believers in regionalism. But nowadays more and more people are beginning to think on these lines and the number of people who take issue with what is called the mainstream of national thinking is increasing day by day. Why this is happening and what the solution to it is, is a question for which all of us must seek the answer. According to many people, the answer is that the democratic process should be allowed to function

without any hindrance or revision and that efforts should be made to remove objections to the experiment which has been recently started. There has been very little disagreement with these objections. Neither the newly-elected persons nor even the members of the new government disagree much on this point. In the meantime, it is necessary to take steps to remove these objections. Once this is done, the SBPF will become ineffective, leadership of the banned PPP will refrain from adopting an extremist course, and advocates of the rights of nationalities will be ready to some extent to remain silent. Solution to all the problems lies in the restoration of democracy--in its true form--and acceptance of the supremacy of elected representatives.

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